

SPECIAL  EDITION

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FRIDAY
9 SEPTEMBER 2022
Number 3,680
70p

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Queen Elizabeth II

1926 - 2022

» Monarch dies at Balmoral in the afternoon, as family rush to her bedside

» Country enters 10 days of mourning for longest reigning sovereign

» UK has a new King and a new Prime Minister within 48 hours

» Charles III set to address the nation, after tribute to his 'beloved mother'

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COVER STORY

After a life of service, Queen

Britain's longest-serving monarch passed peacefully at Balmoral yesterday afternoon. By **Cahal Milmo**

Queen Elizabeth II, the longest-reigning sovereign in the history of the British monarchy, has died.

Buckingham Palace announced that the Queen – who was born with no expectation that she would ascend the throne – died peacefully at the age of 96 while at Balmoral Castle after a day in which a sudden deterioration in her health had put the world on notice that her epoch-changing reign was coming to a close.

The moment of the Queen's death saw the throne pass to her eldest son, who will reign as King Charles III, the Palace announced.

In a statement released shortly before 6.30pm yesterday, the Palace said: "The Queen died peacefully at Balmoral this afternoon. The King and the Queen Consort will remain at Balmoral this evening and will return to London tomorrow."

The new King, who is 73 and served the longest period in British history as heir apparent, used his first words as monarch to speak of his "beloved mother" and acknowledged the period of "mourning and change" that will follow her death. Charles and his wife, Camilla, who becomes the Queen Consort, will travel to London for the Accession Council, which will today formally proclaim him Sovereign.

Despite appearing alert earlier this week as she formally asked Liz Truss to become her 15th Prime Minister, fears for the Queen's well-being had increased suddenly yesterday as the Palace announced that doctors had become "concerned" for her health.

After months in which the Queen's frailty had been explained as arising from "mobility issues", it became clear that an unspecified illness had entered its final hours. Members of the Royal Family rushed to be at the Queen's bedside, with a plane

bringing the Duke of Cambridge along with the Duke of York and the Earl and Countess of Wessex from London. Charles and Camilla, along with the Princess Royal, had already been staying on the Balmoral estate. The Duke of Sussex, travelling separately, also arrived at Balmoral late yesterday afternoon.

The formal placing of a death notice by Royal Household staff at the gates of the Palace signalled the end of a reign that spanned 70 years of unstinting service by a monarch who presided over the shaping of post-Second World War Britain.

Her death, little more than a year after the passing of her husband Prince Philip, the Duke of Edinburgh, means that the Accession Council will meet at 11am today at St James's Palace – for the first time since 1952 – to formally name Charles, the Prince of Wales, her successor. At the age of 73, he will become the oldest person to be crowned sovereign.

Its meeting will be followed by the first public words spoken by Charles (inset, pictured with the Queen) as King, as he assumes the roles of head of state, and the less formal office of "head of nation" – a role described by the Palace as providing "a focus for national identity, unity and pride".

Queen Elizabeth II began her reign on 6 February 1952, with her coronation taking place on 2 June 1953.

During the 70 years of her reign, she was attended by 15 prime ministers, starting with Sir Winston Churchill, and the multitude of world leaders she met included 13 of the 14 US presidents during her time on the throne.

She was a steadfast symbol of stability and continuity in the UK and the Commonwealth, even as both the nation and the House of Windsor experienced its own periods of turbulence.

King Charles inherits a diverse and socially liberal United Kingdom in many ways unrecognisable from the start of his mother's reign – and a slimmed-down monarchy that now faces the task of reaffirming its role after the loss of a monarch who had won global respect and affection.

Tributes flooded in from across the globe for a Queen who was both the longest-lived and the longest-reigning monarch in British history. She acceded to the throne at the age of 25, following the death of her father, King George VI – who had found himself unexpectedly made sovereign following the abdication of his brother, King Edward VIII, in 1936.

Prime Minister Liz Truss, who was only officially appointed as the UK's 56th prime minister following a meeting with the Queen on Tuesday, said the monarch had "provided us with the stability and strength that we needed".

Labour leader Sir Keir Starmer said the Queen had provided a "life of service and devotion to our nation and the Commonwealth".

The US President, Joe Biden, described the Queen as a "stateswoman of unmatched dignity".

Queen Elizabeth II surpassed Queen Victoria's 63 years as monarch in 2015, and this summer marked her Platinum Jubilee.

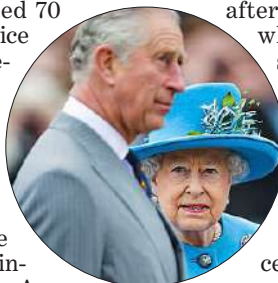
After a life characterised by robust good health, it was announced yesterday afternoon that the Queen's health had become a matter of "concern" for her doctors and that she was being kept under "medical supervision" at Balmoral, long regarded as the favourite of her royal residences.

The announcement of her death means Britain now enters a 10-day period of official mourning, during which the Queen will be brought to Buckingham Palace and then lie in state at Westminster Hall with four guards from the armed services present at all times.

Among those undertaking the vigil over the coming days will be individual members of the Royal Family.

More than half a million members of the public are expected to queue to file past the coffin and pay their respects before the state funeral at Westminster Abbey.

It is likely to be one of the biggest and most widely viewed events in UK history, with a global television audience of hundreds of million expected.



Crowds began to gather outside Buckingham Palace at lunchtime REUTERS



Elizabeth II dies aged 96



The Queen died 17 months after her husband, Prince Philip, the Duke of Edinburgh, who was 99 GETTY

Love for Lilibet Tributes to the Queen pour in

The country's politicians, sporting heroes and cultural figures have paid their respects to the Queen.

Prime Minister Liz Truss paid tribute to the UK's longest-serving monarch on the steps of Downing Street yesterday evening. "Britain is the great country it is today thanks to her," said the PM, who was appointed by the Queen at Balmoral only two days before her death. "She was the very spirit of Great Britain, and that spirit will endure."

"It's an extraordinary achievement to have presided with such dignity and grace for 70 years," she said. "Her life of service stretched beyond most of our living memories."

Scotland's First Minister, Nicola Sturgeon, (right) wrote on Twitter: "The death of Her Majesty, Queen Elizabeth is a profoundly sad moment for the UK, the Commonwealth and the world. Her life was one of extraordinary dedication and service. On behalf of the people of Scotland, I convey my deepest condolences to the King and the Royal Family."

Wales's First Minister, Mark Drakeford, tweeted that he was "incredibly sad to hear of the passing of HRH Queen Elizabeth II". He said: "She firmly upheld the values and traditions of the British Monarchy. On behalf of the people of Wales, I offer our deepest condolences."

Labour leader Sir Keir Starmer said: "We mourn the passing of a remarkable sovereign. It is a deep, private loss for the Royal Family and all our thoughts are with them. The nation shares in their grief. We will always treasure Queen Elizabeth II's life of service and devotion to our nation and the Commonwealth."

Boris Johnson said the Queen "modernised the constitutional monarchy" and "produced an heir to the throne who will amply do justice to her legacy".

David Cameron called the Queen "a rock of strength for our nation and the Commonwealth", while Gordon Brown said "the United Kingdom, the Commonwealth, and the entire world are joined together in mourning this evening".

Sir Tony Blair said: "We have lost not just our monarch but the matriarch of our nation, the figure who more than any other brought our country together, kept us in touch with our better nature, personified everything which

makes us proud to be British."

The Commons Speaker, Sir Lindsay Hoyle, called the Queen's death a "terrible loss for us all".

"We will miss her beyond measure," he said. "For all of us, the Queen has been a constant presence in our lives – as familiar as a member of the family. Most of us have never known a time when she was not there. Her death is not only a tragedy for the royal family, but a terrible loss for us all."



The Archbishop of Canterbury, Justin Welby (bottom), said his "prayers are with the King and the Royal Family" and the Queen's "steadfast loyalty, service and humility has helped us make sense of who we are".

James Bond star Daniel Craig, who performed a sketch with the Queen as part of the opening ceremony to the 2012 Olympic Games in London, said the Queen leaves "an incomparable legacy and will be profoundly missed".

Dame Helen Mirren, who starred in the 2006 biopic *The Queen*, said she was "proud to be an Elizabethan", calling Queen Elizabeth II the "epitome of nobility".



Sir Elton John said the Queen was "an inspiring presence to be around, and led the country through some of our greatest, and darkest, moments with grace, decency and a genuine, caring warmth".

The former England footballer Gary Lineker wrote it was "a terribly sad day", adding: "A truly remarkable woman who served her country with dignity, loyalty and grace. A comforting ever present in the lives of most of us. Rest In Peace, Your Majesty."

The actor Stephen Fry (above left) wrote that he was "sobbing" following the news: "Oh dear. Oh my. Oh heavens. Bless my soul."



The composer Andrew Lloyd Webber described the Queen as "an inspiration to the world for her lifetime of service".

He wrote: "For the whole of my life, the Queen has been the constant anchor of not just Britain and her beloved Commonwealth, but an inspiration to the world for her lifetime of service."

"Her legacy will be remembered as a selfless beacon for love, understanding and the celebration of fellow human beings all over the world, no matter their race or creed."

Former *Great British Bake Off* host Sue Perkins wrote: "What an extraordinary life. A fixed point, seemingly unchanged by the whirlings of history around her. So strange to be suddenly without."

Lucie Heath

Letter from
the Editor
Oliver Duff
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A national shock

Over seven tumultuous decades, the Queen was one of the few constants in our lives. Not many of us remember a time without her. She was the best-known person on Earth.

She embodied stability, while also showing a willingness to adapt when she had to. Seventy years ago, London was the capital of a global empire of 600 million people. Britain still lived in an age of deference – as well as one of hardship, with Second World War rationing continuing until 1954. The concept of divine rule persisted.

Since Elizabeth II's coronation, the country has changed beyond recognition. The world around us has evolved faster than at any time in human history, with rapid developments in technology transforming politics, science and class, as well as social attitudes. Through national and family crises, she endured.

So even though we have known this day was coming, her death is shocking. This week will punctuate each of our lives: before and after. Her passing forces us to confront our own ageing.

June's Platinum Jubilee gave tens of millions of people a final chance to thank the Queen for her lifetime of service. Amid the celebrations, we were invited to consider a future without her. A soft regency was under way, with her 73-year-old apprentice taking over some duties.

At home and abroad, she wielded soft power because of her discretion, offering political leaders counsel without stumbling into partisan clashes. Her descendants would be well advised to show similar self-restraint, not least since the Royal Family faces challenges in holding together the Union and the Commonwealth.

She was flawed. There were misjudgements, especially with her children. Yet she was a national and global leader who prized dignity and hard work. Her life has been one of privilege but also of relentless service to her nation, even in her 90s.

During hard times she spoke with optimism, a source of comfort and inspiration. She gave one of her most stirring addresses two years ago, as the UK went into lockdown: "We will succeed – and that success will belong to every one of us. Better days will return. We will meet again." Little wonder she is so respected, admired and, yes, loved by many.

@olyduff



MONARCHY

A day the nation held its breath as the Queen quietly slipped away

By Cahal Milmo
CHIEF REPORTER

If a nation can hold its breath, then yesterday, 8 September 2022, was the day on which the United Kingdom did so.

That lasted almost exactly six hours until, at 6.30pm, the message that many had feared but expected was delivered by the Press Association news agency.

A single, starkly portentous sentence read: "The Queen has died, Buckingham Palace has announced."

History will record that the Palace statement, conveying that the monarch had died peacefully at Balmoral Castle yesterday afternoon, to a greater or lesser extent then brought the nation to a halt.

Outside Buckingham Palace vehicles stopped, while at Windsor Castle a rainbow appeared as the Royal Standard was brought to half mast.

Suddenly, as dusk gathered, the certainty of the passing of Britain's longest-reigning monarch hit home.

It had taken the hurried and unexpected entrance into the chamber of the House of Commons of Nadhim Zahawi, barely a day into his new job as Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster, to send the first ripples of alarm about the Queen's wellbeing through the nation.

Shortly before 12.30pm, Mr Zahawi, whose Cabinet role includes acting as a liaison between Westminster's corridors of power and Buckingham Palace, began with conspicuous urgency, briefing the Prime

Minister, Liz Truss, on the front bench as she was passed a note containing the stark information that the 96-year-old monarch's health had deteriorated, markedly so.

Almost simultaneously, similar notes were being passed in the Commons to the Labour leader, Sir Keir Starmer, and the Speaker, Sir Lindsay Hoyle, prompting some sharp-eyed MPs to speculate that something was amiss in the House of Windsor.

It did not take long for an unsettling clarity to be proffered.

At 12.33pm, the 29-word statement that would clear broadcast schedules and relegate one of the biggest economic interventions by any government since the Second World War to an also-ran on news bulletins was released by the Palace.

It read: "Following further evaluation this morning, the Queen's doctors are concerned for her health and have recommended she remain under medical supervision. The Queen remains comfortable and at Balmoral."

The bulletin was phrased in the Palace's preferred sparse and factual tone. But its significance was huge and immediate.

Throughout the afternoon, the starkly gilded gates to the Balmoral estate had become the backdrop to a day of sombre speculation.

A small crowd of well-wishers, later swelled by the news of the Queen's death, quietly gathered at the foot of the Victoria Memorial in front of Buckingham Palace as

the weather – with leaden skies and bursts of driving rain – did its best to match the national mood.

Behind the scenes, the machine of officialdom began to grind into action as statements were issued from the highest offices of the land.

Against this backdrop, senior members of the Royal Family – the Queen's children along with the Duke of Cambridge and the Duke of Sussex – began their journeys to be at the sovereign's bedside in Balmoral.

By accident of the royal summer schedule, the Prince of Wales and the Duchess of Cornwall had been staying at Birkhall, the now new King's residence on the Balmoral estate.

The Princess Royal, who had been carrying out engagements in Scotland, was also already in Balmoral.

But it was the progress of RAF flight KRF23R which cemented the sense of gravity.

The Falcon jet (*inset*) took off from RAF Northolt in west London at 2.39pm with Prince William and the Duke of York and the Earl and Countess of Wessex on board.

By 5pm, a convoy carrying those passengers swept through the gates of Balmoral – meaning the Queen's four children and the two men who were next in line to the throne were now present for a family gathering that none would have desired but all would have, one day, known to expect. The Duke of Sussex also made his way to Balmoral.

As the afternoon unfolded, the scene somewhere in Balmoral castle can only have been one similar to that experienced by countless families up and down the land: a family gathered at a moment of grief, while others beyond waited for news.



Prince William, Prince Andrew, Sophie, Countess of Wessex, and Edward, Earl of Wessex, arrive at Balmoral yesterday

JEFF J MITCHELL/GETTY

DIPLOMACY

World leaders praise monarch's 'wisdom, humour and warmth'

By Benjamin Butterworth

Leaders from around the world have expressed their sorrow at the passing of Queen Elizabeth II aged 96.

Canadian Prime Minister, Justin Trudeau, who first met the Queen as a boy, while his father was Canadian PM, led tributes from those Commonwealth nations the Queen ruled.

He said: "As we look back at her life and her reign that spanned so many decades, Canadians will always remember and cherish Her Majesty's wisdom, compassion, and warmth."

The British monarch is Canada's head of state, a role the Queen occupied for nearly half of the country's existence. She visited 22 times.

The US President, Joe Biden, and

his wife Jill said in a statement that "Queen Elizabeth II was a stateswoman of unmatched dignity and constancy" who "helped make our relationship special".

Former US President, Barack Obama, said: "Michelle and I were lucky enough to come to know Her Majesty, and she meant a great deal to us. Time and again, we were struck by her warmth, the way she put people at ease, and how she brought her considerable humour and charm to moments of great pomp and circumstance."

President of France, Emmanuel Macron, said that the Queen "embodied the British nation's continuity and unity for over 70 years". He said: "I remember her as a friend of

France, a kind-hearted queen who has left a lasting impression on her country and her century."

Germany's foreign minister, Annalena Baerbock, said: "Germany remains forever grateful that she stretched out her hand to us in reconciliation after the terror of the Second World War."

Ukraine's President, Volodymyr Zelensky, said he felt "deep sadness" at this "irreparable loss".

Italian Prime Minister, Mario Draghi, hailed the Queen as having been "the absolute protagonist of world history of the last 70 years." Mr Draghi said Elizabeth had represented the United Kingdom "with equilibrium, wisdom, respect for institutions and for democracy".

ROYAL FAMILY

Charles leads the tributes in deeply personal message to 'beloved mother'

By Connie Dimsdale

King Charles III led the tributes to the Queen following her death, describing it as a "moment of the greatest sadness".

In a deeply personal message for his "beloved" mother, the King recognised that her passing would be felt throughout the country, the Commonwealth and the world.

The Queen's eldest son, who became King on her death, said in a statement: "We mourn profoundly the passing of a cherished sovereign and a much-loved mother."

"I know her loss will be deeply felt

throughout the country, the realms and the Commonwealth, and by countless people around the world.

"During this period of mourning and change, my family and I will be comforted and sustained by our knowledge of the respect and deep affection in which the Queen was so widely held."

His words, first published online through the official social media account of the Royal Family, was then shared by Prince William and Catherine, the Duchess of Cambridge, and King Charles and Camilla, now the Queen Consort.

Prince Harry and Meghan,



REACTION

Loss of 'cherished sovereign' sends Britain into 10 days of mourning

By David Parsley
CHIEF NEWS CORRESPONDENT

As the death of Queen Elizabeth II was announced by Buckingham Palace at 6.30pm last night, the world bowed its head in mourning.

Flags were lowered to half-mast across royal residences, government buildings, sporting and social clubs and homes across the UK and the 54 member states of the Commonwealth.

Moments before the announcement of the end of the Queen's 70-year reign, a rainbow framed Buckingham Palace. And as the news of her death spread across the globe, its bright arch gave way to dark clouds. Following the announcement, the BBC played the national anthem across television and radio while anchors and reporters appeared onscreen in black clothing.

And as tens of thousands of people poured down The Mall to pay their respects outside the Palace, two footmen posted the announcement on the gates. Many were moved to tears.

The Palace statement read: "The Queen died peacefully at Balmoral this afternoon.

"The King and The Queen Consort will remain at Balmoral this evening and will return to London tomorrow."

Tributes to the Queen were led by King Charles, her eldest son, and the Prime Minister, Liz Truss.

"We mourn profoundly the pass-

ing of a cherished sovereign and a much-loved mother," King Charles said, while Ms Truss called the Queen "the rock on which modern Britain was built".

Her death will be marked with the declaration of 10 days of national mourning.

Today, bells at parish churches, chapels and cathedrals across England will toll for an hour from noon, according to the Church of England.

Sporting events have been cancelled or postponed with football matches across the national leagues expect to be rescheduled, along with golf tournaments and cricket matches.

The kick-off of rugby union's English Premiership is also expected to be delayed, while the Queen's favourite sport of horse racing announced a temporary suspension to meetings.

Her Majesty's coffin is expected to lie in state for three days at Westminster Hall in advance of her state funeral at Westminster Abbey in central London, a ceremony which will be presided over by the Archbishop of Canterbury.

i The Government is **not** expected to announce any other business, unless urgent, for the next 10 days, to allow focus to fall completely on the Queen.

Duchess of Sussex's Archewell website homepage became blacked-out with the words: "In loving memory of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II 1926-2022."

It is a sign of the modern monarchy that the King is expected to reign over that the announcements were made first on the internet, and a stark reminder of just how much has changed since the Queen's coronation more than 70 years ago.

Charles grew up knowing it was his destiny to become the King, a responsibility that would only come about on the death of his mother.

At the age of three, he became heir apparent – the first in line to the throne, facing a lifetime of being groomed to wear the crown.

In his biography, Jonathan Dimbleby wrote: "Prince Charles is far more aware of the prospective burdens of kingship than its pleasures."

The then Prince of Wales told him: "If at some stage in the distant future I was to succeed my mama then obviously I would do my best to fulfil that role. Sometimes you

daydream the sort of things you might do."

It would be his relationship with his "mama" that inspired his own dedication to duty. He must now transition into the role of King, while also undergoing a period of personal mourning.

Having spent years as a working royal – and being first British monarch to have gone to school – he is expected to rise to the challenge.

In June, he gave an emotional speech in tribute to "Your Majesty, Mummy" at a celebration for the Platinum Jubilee outside Buckingham Palace.

"You laugh and cry with us and, most importantly, you have been there for us, for these 70 years," he told the crowd.

Charles has followed in the footsteps of his late beloved mother by choosing his Christian name as his official title, becoming King Charles III.

The title is a personal choice of the monarch, and he could have

followed past royal traditions of choosing a new name.

There had been speculation that Charles could have picked George, to become George VII, because of his devotion to his grandmother, the Queen Mother, and her love for her husband, George VI.

But having been known as Charles for seven decades, the new King has decided to keep his own name and maintain continuity.

Prime Minister Liz Truss was the first to announce the title in her speech outside Downing Street last night. Clarence House then confirmed it.

The King isn't the only royal to see a title change, with his wife Camilla now the Queen Consort at Charles's side.

This means that Camilla is no longer the Duchess of Cornwall, with this title now belonging to Catherine, after William inherited the title the Duke of Cornwall to become the Duke of Cornwall and Cambridge.



POLITICS

This is our country's saddest day, says emotional Johnson

By Emily Ferguson
POLITICAL REPORTER

Boris Johnson paid an emotional tribute to the Queen, saying that her death marked "our country's saddest day".

In a lengthy statement, the former prime minister said there was "an ache at the passing of our Queen" in "the hearts of every one of us".

He added: "As we think of the void she leaves, we understand the vital role she played, selflessly and calmly embodying the continuity and unity of our country."

"Relentless though her diary must have felt, she never once let it show, and to tens of thousands

of events she brought her smile and her warmth and her gentle humour – and for an unrivalled 70 years she spread that magic around her kingdom.

"This is our country's saddest day because she had a unique and simple power to make us happy. That is why we loved her."

"That is why we grieve for Elizabeth the Great, the longest-serving and, in many ways, the finest monarch in our history."

"Though our voices may still be choked with sadness, we can say with confidence the words not heard in this country for more than seven decades: God save the King."





EXPLAINER

Operation London Bridge: the next 10 days

What will happen from now until the Queen's funeral. By **Dean Kirby**

A meticulously planned operation codenamed London Bridge has swung into action following the death of Queen Elizabeth II, with a ten-day period of mourning as the nation prepares for what is expected to be the biggest state funeral since the death of Queen Victoria.

The operation has been decades in the planning, but an army of courtiers, aides and government officials is now finalising the details as the nation mourns the passing of its monarch.

This is how Operation London Bridge will unfold. Under the plans, today is known as D-Day, with each day that follows up to the Queen's funeral known as D plus the number of days that have passed.

WORLD LEARNS OF THE QUEEN'S DEATH

The news of the Queen's death was announced to the world in an official notification from the Royal Household and posted outside the gates of Buckingham Palace.

Government social media accounts fell silent and ministers were called upon to hold off giving tributes until after the Prime Minister had spoken to the nation.

Flags were lowered at half-mast at royal residences and in Whitehall, including on the roof of Downing Street, with expectations that all government websites will show a black banner. Floodlights at royal residences were expected to be turned off last night. Bells will begin to toll at Westminster

Abbey, St Paul's Cathedral and Windsor Castle.

A STATEMENT FROM THE KING

It will be up to Charles to decide on the length of mourning for members of the Royal Household, but this is expected to last a month. It is a tradition introduced by Queen Victoria after the death of her consort Prince Albert, when she began to correspond using stationery with a black border. After Prince Philip's death, Queen Elizabeth II used a black crest on her stationery rather than a red one.

Gun salutes are expected to take place across Britain to mark each year of the Queen's life. There are 11 saluting stations around the UK, including at Edinburgh Castle, Stirling Castle, Woolwich, Cardiff, Belfast, Plymouth, Dover Castle and York, as well as in Gibraltar.

A national minute's silence will be announced. At a time to be confirmed, Liz Truss will meet the new King before he makes the hardest and most emotional public statement of his life. In a televised speech, Charles will pay tribute to his mother's service and will also seek to reassure a nation and Commonwealth in mourning.

At around the same time, there is likely to be a service of remembrance at St Paul's Cathedral, where members of the public can gather.

THE ACCESSION COUNCIL MEETS

Within 24 hours of the Queen's death, the Accession Council is due to meet at St James's Palace,

Operation London Bridge

Lying at rest

According to previously reported plans, Elizabeth II's body will be transported from Balmoral to lie at rest in her Edinburgh palace, Holyroodhouse, before being borne up the Royal Mile for a service at St Giles' Cathedral. It will then travel to London on the Royal Train from Waverley Station.



On arriving in London the Queen's coffin will be taken to Buckingham Palace.

Final resting place

A minute's silence will be held as the coffin leaves the Abbey and the procession will travel to the gates of Buckingham Palace. The coffin will then be transferred to a hearse before being driven along the 23-mile route to Windsor Castle, the last resting place of British monarchs since 1820.

Funeral service

At 11am, the procession will reach the doors of Westminster Abbey. Inside, some 2,000 guests will attend the funeral service.

the official seat of the Royal Court. The council is formed of all Privy Counsellors, Great Officers of State, the Lord Mayor of London, the Realm High Commissioners and senior civil servants.

Since the Act of Settlement of 1701, a new monarch succeeds automatically, and the Accession Council confirms by name the identity of the heir who has succeeded. The gathering will proclaim Charles as the new sovereign. Members of the council will be expected to wear morning dress or lounge suits with black or dark ties. No military decorations are to be worn.

Monarchs are required to make an oath to "maintain and preserve" the Church of Scotland. Once Charles has made the oath, the Garter King of Arms will step on to the Proclamation Gallery overlooking Friary Court to proclaim him King.

The accession proclamation will be read at St James's Palace and at the Royal Exchange in the City of London, as well as in Edinburgh, Cardiff and at Stormont in Northern Ireland.

While "the Queen is dead, long live the King" is commonly believed to be part of the official proclamation, it is only tradition that causes it to be recited after the proclamation is read aloud

by town criers. Charles will hold his first Privy Council meeting, accompanied by Camilla and the Duke of Cambridge, who are Privy Counsellors. Around the country, Union flags will go back up to full mast for 24 hours in honour of the proclamation before returning to half-mast.

MPs OFFER MESSAGES OF CONDOLENCE

Parliament will be dissolved before being recalled to agree a message of condolence. Parliamentary business will be paused while MPs offer their own tributes to the Queen in the Commons. This could last more than one day as the 650 members take turns to speak. On the day of George VI's death, Winston Churchill offered his condolences in a short message in the Commons, which was recorded in black-bordered pages in *Hansard*, the official parliamentary record.

The Prime Minister and the Cabinet are expected to hold an audience with the new King to help him prepare and confirm arrangements for the days ahead.

THE QUEEN WILL BE BROUGHT BACK TO LONDON

Plans to carry the Queen's body by Royal Train to London are known as Operation Unicorn. It is likely that St Giles' Cathedral in Edinburgh

will be the main place for the public to pay their respects, with the Queen's body taken to Holyrood House before the train departs from Waverley Station.

Ms Truss and senior ministers are expected to meet the Queen's coffin on arrival in London before it is taken to Buckingham Palace. This will be a huge operation, with crowds likely to line railway bridges as they look for the train making its journey southwards.

The undertaker is expected to be Leverton and Sons, based in Camden, which was last called upon by the Royal Family when Prince Philip died in April 2021.

It is thought that the Queen's casket was made by Henry Smith in Battersea and was inherited by Levertons. Like the Duke of Edinburgh's lead-lined coffin, it is likely to be made of English oak.

THE NEW KING TOURS THE UK

After Charles receives a motion of condolence at Westminster Hall, the plan is for the new King to tour the UK in the days before the funeral.

In an operation known as Spring Tide, his tour is expected to begin with a visit to the Scottish Parliament and a service at St Giles' Cathedral. He will then visit Northern Ireland, where he will receive another motion of condolence at Hillsborough Castle



An announcement is placed at Palace of Holyroodhouse, Edinburgh REUTERS



SOCIETY

Public will be invited to pay respects to Queen at tributes across UK

By Laura Elston

As the country adjusts to the death of the Queen and the reign of a new monarch, the public will be given the chance to pay their respects to the nation's longest serving head of state.

The Queen's funeral is expected to attract crowds of up to one million but there are many other ways in which families and individuals across the country can offer their thoughts and prayers to the Royal Family.

Books of condolence may be opened at royal residences, town halls across the country and at British embassies around the world. After Prince Philip's death in April 2021, an online book of condolence was set up to avoid the spread of Covid-19.

Buckingham Palace will release details in due course, with councils also announcing their plans.

Millions of bouquets, cards and messages were left in tribute at Kensington Palace after the death of Diana, Princess of Wales, in 1997, with flowers also left for Prince Philip in 2021.

Buckingham Palace may issue guidance on floral tributes and cards, but the public is expected to begin to leave them at the Queen's London home and at Windsor. Members of the Royal Family usually take time to view the floral tributes in person.

After Prince Philip's death, new floral tributes at Buckingham Palace

were moved to Marlborough House – the home of the Commonwealth Secretariat – in London each evening.

The public were asked not to leave flowers due to Covid guidelines, and to consider a donation to a charity instead, but many still decided to do so.

After Diana's death, the flowers and gifts were eventually given to the sick, the elderly and to children. Teddy bears and even bottles of champagne went to residential homes and hospitals, while toys were sent to toy libraries.

Cards and messages were collected and stored for Diana's family, while flowers that were no longer fresh were composted and used for new plants.

The night before the Queen's funeral, the public will be able to pay their respects at church services,

with larger towns and cities holding memorial services in sports stadiums and public venues.

In the days before the state funeral, Queen Elizabeth II will lie in state at Westminster Hall for the public to pay their respects.

Lying-in-state in the UK is given to the sovereign, as head of state, the current or past Queen Consort and sometimes former prime ministers.

An estimated 20,000 people paid their respects to the Queen Mother when she lay in state before her funeral.

During the lying-in-state period, the coffin rests on a raised platform in the middle of Westminster Hall. Each corner of the platform is guarded around the clock by units from the Sovereign's Bodyguard, Foot Guards or the Household Cavalry Mounted Regiment.

Members of the public are free to file past the platform and pay their respects.

In order to keep the public safe and orderly, former counter-terror chief Nick Aldworth said that the security operation in the wake of the Queen's death and surrounding her funeral is likely to be the biggest the UK has ever seen.

He said police and security services are anticipating huge crowds, with plans on an "enormous" scale set in motion.



Tributes to the Queen were left outside Balmoral Castle last night

and attend a service at St Anne's Cathedral in Belfast. Next, he will head to Wales for a motion of condolence at the Welsh Parliament and attend a service at Llandaff Cathedral in Cardiff. Charles will then return to London.

THE LYING IN STATE

Before the lying in state, the Queen's coffin will proceed from Buckingham Palace to the Palace of Westminster. This section has been codenamed Operation Lion.

The procession will be watched on television by millions of people. It is expected that the Queen will then lie in state at the Palace of Westminster for four days – a period codenamed Operation Feather. The Archbishop of Canterbury will perform a short service following the coffin's arrival. For up to 23 hours a day, people will be able to wait in line to view the coffin. VIPs will be given tickets to avoid having to queue.

It is likely, as happened when the Queen Mother died, that people will sleep in line overnight for a chance to pay their respects. The Queen's coffin will lie on a raised box known as a catafalque in the middle of the hall, and each corner will be guarded around the clock.

One notable event at the lying-in-state of King George V was the Vigil of the Princes, with the four sons of the late king standing

guard together for a time. The vigil was recalled 65 years later at the lying-in-state of the Queen Mother, when her grandsons – the Prince of Wales, the Duke of York, the Earl of Wessex and Viscount Linley – stood guard together.

When the Queen Mother died in 2002, she lay in state for three days, with an estimated 200,000 people visiting to pay their respects.

When Sir Winston Churchill died aged 90 in 1965, more than 320,000 people filed past his coffin. Edward Bacon, a reporter from the *Illustrated London News*, described the procession through the hall as having "the mesmeric effect of a river flowing past".

THE QUEEN'S FUNERAL

The Queen's funeral is to take place at Westminster Abbey in around 10 days' time, before a committal service at St George's Chapel.

The day will be declared a public holiday in the form of a National Day of Mourning. It is expected to have a similar feel to the Queen Mother's funeral in 2002.

On the eve of the ceremony, heads of state and other monarchs will fly in to Britain from around the world. Businesses and shops will close as people across the UK and billions more around the world gather around their television screens.

The Queen Mother's funeral was watched by an estimated 10 million people in the UK, and the Duke of Edinburgh's funeral in April 2020 by 13.6 million.

It is expected that well over a million people will pour into London to line the streets for the procession. In a striking assessment of how the public could react, previously leaked plans for Operation London Bridge suggested that the city could become "full" for the first time ever as huge numbers travel to the capital, with public transport, policing and basic services stretched to breaking point and a vast security operation to manage crowds.

State funerals changed greatly after the death of Queen Victoria, who wanted a much more military event than previous monarchs. It was Victoria who requested that her body would be carried on a gun carriage because she wanted to be buried as "a soldier's daughter". Since that time, it has been tradition for the gun carriage to be drawn by a Royal Guard of sailors.

A more recent tradition of state funerals has been the ringing of Big Ben before 10am, with as many strokes as there were years of the monarch's life. It last happened after the death of George VI.

The original plan has long been

for the Queen to be carried on a gun carriage to Westminster Abbey, with the sailors using ropes rather than horses to pull the carriage along. Senior members of the Royal Family are expected to follow behind, as they did for the funeral of Diana, Princess of Wales, and the Duke of Edinburgh. The military will line the streets and also join the procession.

Heads of state, prime ministers and presidents, European royalty and key figures from public life will be invited to gather in the abbey, which can hold 2,000 people.

On the same day as the funeral, the Queen's coffin will be taken to St George's Chapel at Windsor Castle for a televised committal service.

Later in the evening, there will be a private interment service with senior members of the Royal Family.

The Queen's final resting place will be the King George VI Memorial Chapel in the grounds of Windsor Castle. The tiny chapel is also the resting place of the Queen's father and mother, and the ashes of her sister, Princess Margaret.

Prince Philip's coffin will be moved from the Royal Vault to the memorial chapel to join that of his beloved wife. The Queen and her consort, who were married for 73 years, will be together once again.

Respect Flags and bells

The flags were lowered to half-mast at Buckingham Palace as the world learned the news of the Queen's death yesterday.

Union flags at Downing Street and other official buildings across the country were lowered shortly afterwards.

Landmarks across the UK and world dimmed their lights last night as a mark of respect.

A statement on the London Eye's official Twitter account said the landmark would dim its lights from sunset yesterday in her honour.

The mayor of Paris, Anne Hidalgo, confirmed lights on the Eiffel Tower would also be turned off in tribute to the Queen.

Scheduled theatre performances went ahead last night as per government guidance, the Society of London Theatre and UK Theatre confirmed in a statement, but across the country they dimmed their lights, observed a two-minute silence and played the national anthem before performances.

Churches across England are also being urged to toll their bells today.

The Church of England has sent out guidance to parish churches, chapels and cathedrals encouraging them to toll their bells.

Lucie Heath



PEOPLE

Prayers, tears and flowers at palace gates

Large crowds gathered first in hope, then sorrow. By **Ellen O'Dwyer**

As the crowd that had gathered outside the gates of Buckingham Palace watched the Union flag on its roof being lowered to half-mast to mark the death of Queen Elizabeth II, there was a sad and eerie silence.

Some people held up their phones to film or photograph this symbol of history. A few turned on the BBC broadcast on their phones, listening to the sombre words of Huw Edwards as he narrated the news happening in front of them.

Another instinctive reaction was to try calling mothers, fathers, grandparents. Others simply stood and watched, perhaps a little stunned that this inevitable yet sometimes scarcely imaginable moment of national mourning had finally arrived.

But then: an outpouring of gratitude. In an impromptu coming together to mark her life, the crowd began to sing *God Save The Queen*, no matter that officially the final word of the national anthem has already become "King".

One man wiped a tear from his eye. Another held a bouquet of white lilies; someone else had chosen sunflowers. One man said he had to have some pink in his bunch to celebrate her life, not simply commemorate her death.

While some people were determined to get to the front of the throng to place their flowers down personally, others were content to give theirs to the mourners ahead of them to be passed along.

After the day's downpours, a double rainbow appeared over the palace as members of the public gathered outside to pay their respects. And as darkness began to fall, with thousands of people still squashed up against the gates, a round of applause broke out.

Claire Armstrong had travelled to the palace because she was compelled to pay her respects to an "inspirational woman who brought the country together in difficult times". Henry Broadbent, 26, said she signified a respect that couldn't be questioned and a kindness we can all aspire to. "She was both of us and for us," said Mr Broadbent.

Many of the floral tributes were grabbed in a rush. Simon Stache, 31, had taken flowers from his kitchen table and left them at the palace gates. "The feeling that brought me here was an immediate reminder of our own end," he said. "In my

mind the Queen could live for ever. Once I read the news, I came here to connect with other people."

Alan Granley said the Queen represented "honesty, consistency, fairness generally, and she seemed to have raised a good family which counts for a lot".

For Annette German, who had attended the Queen's coronation in 1953 and shared the same birthday, it was a moment of reflection.

The 84-year-old retired teacher, from south London, said: "I was with my grandmother at the coronation and, when I heard the news she was unwell, I thought: 'I must be there', and I got on a train and got the news as I was just round the corner.

"The Queen could not have better dedicated her life to her country."

Many people had come here earlier in the day not to mark the Queen's death but to show their support in the hope of better news.

Among the others who spoke to, in the hours before her death was announced, was Tom Hall, 37, from Wimbledon, who was visiting the palace with his in-laws from Seoul, South Korea. "Only a few months ago we were here for the Platinum Jubilee and watching the jets fly overhead, and I thought: 'What a life', he said.

Karen Henry, visiting London from Northumberland, did not realise the Queen was under medical care until she arrived at the palace gates. "I love her, I absolutely love her," Ms Henry said. "It's everything she stands for, the heritage, her general demeanour... she's a lovely, lovely lady who's been through so much."

Chloe Freer, 22, and Cameron Burgess, 23, said that although their parents and grandparents felt a deeper connection to the monarchy than they did, they still mourned the Queen's death. "It's a change, she's been a constant our whole lives. Some people say she is like another family member."

Lauren Davidson, 33, felt the Queen symbolised a whole generation. "She connected me to my granny," she said.

Zvi Paz, who was visiting London from Israel, said the Queen had represented both tradition and a vision for the future.

For Emma Swift, 54, the Queen's power had been her stability and reliability. "When Covid hit, she came out and put our minds at rest," she said.



***Paying respects
at the Palace***

The Union flag flies at half mast at Buckingham Palace yesterday as hundreds of people – many holding up their mobile phones – paid their respects. SAMIR HUSSEIN/WIREIMAGE





SUCCESSION

King Charles III, heir since age of

By Cahal Milmo
CHIEF REPORTER

In his first words as monarch, Charles, as the nation's "mourner in chief", last night acknowledged the period of "mourning and change" that will follow his mother's death, expressing his gratitude for the "respect and deep affection" with which she is regarded.

But it is his second statement, expected to be made at today's Accession Council, that will begin to look towards the future and the reign for which he has spent a lifetime preparing.

His words will be scrutinised closely for what clues they offer as to the style and content of Charles's kingship – the first new monarch that a majority of Britons will have known in their lifetimes.

While the apprenticeship for

monarch was long for Charles, the transfer of the Crown came on a day of sudden, somewhat unexpected events, despite the Queen's slow withdrawal from much of public life as she dealt with unspecified "mobility problems".

The precise circumstances of the Queen's passing last night remained private, but her eldest son and his wife, the new Queen Consort, are thought to have been among the first – along with the Princess Royal – to be in attendance as news emerged yesterday afternoon of a sudden deterioration in Elizabeth II's health.

The Prince of Wales and Camilla were staying at Birkhall, his own residence on the Balmoral estate, meaning they were only a short journey away from the Queen's bedside.

As other members of the Royal Family travelled to Royal Deeside, among them his brothers and his

two sons, it seems likely that the heir to the throne was with his mother as their shared burden passed from one to the other.

King Charles last night used his first public words as sovereign to pay tribute to a "cherished sovereign and much-loved mother" as the mantle of monarch passed unseen on to his shoulders with the death of the Queen.

Clarence House confirmed that the new monarch will reign as King Charles III, as the longest wait to ascend the throne by an heir-apparent in British history came to a sad end within the confines of Balmoral Castle yesterday afternoon.

The centuries-old mechanism of monarchy meant that Charles, 73, became king at the moment of the death of his 96-year-old mother.

Amid his grief at the loss of a "beloved mother", King Charles III now finds himself the subject of the processes and the duties of a new sovereign.

In its statement announcing the Queen's death, Buckingham Palace said the new monarch would remain at Balmoral last night before returning to London today for the Accession Council.

The ancient ceremony, held within the confines of St James's Palace, is the moment at which Charles will be formally proclaimed king by members of the Privy Council.

The question remains of just how the new king intends to combine his duties as sovereign with his lifetime of campaigning on issues such as the environment.

Royal aides have previously played down the idea that Charles will be an "activist" monarch.

But it seems unlikely that the throne of the United Kingdom has passed to a sovereign without views.



Charles with Camilla, who will now be Queen Consort, on their wedding day in Windsor in April 2005 TOBY MELVILLE/PA

ACCESSION

How Charles will be proclaimed King, from the Privy to the Garter

By Cahal Milmo and Nigel Morris

It has long been planned that in the late morning on the first day after the death of the Queen, around 150 eminences will gather in a chamber at St James's Palace.

The purpose of this gathering is both straightforward and momentous: the formal proclamation that Charles Philip Arthur George Windsor is the next sovereign of the United Kingdom.

It will also make him head of state in Canada, Australia, New Zealand and 12 other nation states from Belize to Tuvalu, including the UK.

Prince Charles automatically became King at the very moment of his mother's death in accordance with the principle that the nation is never without

a sovereign. While the words "the Queen is dead, long live the King" are not formally spoken, the passing of royal power is frictionless.

But it is before the Accession Council – a body consisting of the members of the Privy Council along with, among others, delegations from the House of Lords and the High Commissioners of Commonwealth countries – that Charles makes his first formal oaths.

In theory, around 1,000 representatives of the "great and good" could attend the ceremony.

Among the weighty matters of dynastic bureaucracy to be settled will be the name by which Charles decides to rule. Although Charles III is the most likely choice, he could in theory choose

any moniker he likes, among them one of his remaining given names.

The former Prince of Wales will also swear fealty to Parliament and the Protestant faith in the form of an oath to uphold the Church of Scotland (a separate oath in support of the Church of England is given before Parliament).

An hour later, trumpeters from the Life Guards will appear on the balcony of St James's Palace to give three blasts.

Once these formalities are completed in private, an official known as the Garter King of Arms will emerge on to the balcony overlooking Friary Court in the palace and stand on the red carpet laid earlier.

To a television audience of billions, the Cambridge-educated genealogist David White will then

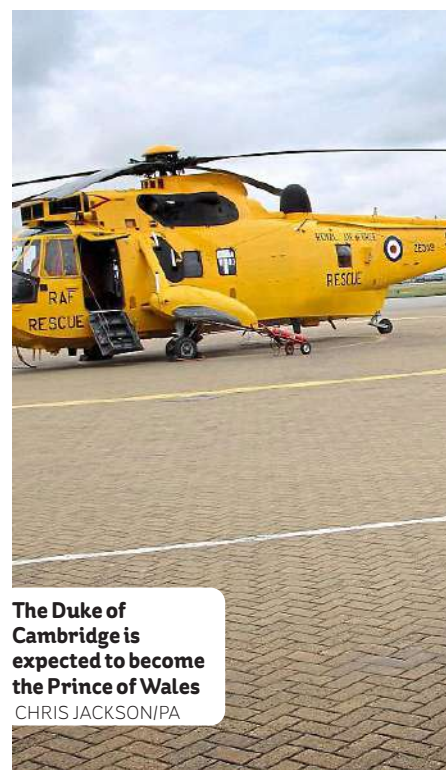


publicly announce that Charles is King.

This ceremony has roots dating back a millennium to the Anglo-Saxon feudal assembly that once proclaimed the ruler of these islands.

The timelessly regal proclamation is one of the key requirements of Operation Spring Tide – the official Government schedule for the succession of Charles which runs alongside Operation London Bridge, the minutely choreographed plan for the death of the Queen.

At the heart of these traditions, which among other functions continue to enshrine the prohibition on a Roman Catholic becoming monarch, lies a challenge to be played out in the coming years – as Charles III seeks to place his imprint on the position held by his mother longer than any other British monarch before her.



The Duke of Cambridge is expected to become the Prince of Wales
CHRIS JACKSON/PA

3, prepares for speech of his life

Charles, the Queen and Prince Louis watch the Jubilee flypast earlier this year. MAX MUMBY/INDIGO/GETTY

THE ROLE

New King will mould monarchy to his own vision

Charles will not shy away from the causes he holds dear. By **Cahal Milmo**

It was a reign of such longevity that nearly all Britons neither know nor perhaps expect any other style of monarchy. However, it is very possible that another style of monarchy is precisely what will transpire.

For while King Charles III will solemnly proclaim the ancient undertakings of his forebears, the man who has spent nearly five decades pursuing the myriad issues he holds dear, from climate change to homeopathy, will also finally have the opportunity to mould to his image the institution he has waited so long to command.

That he will make changes after becoming, at the age of 73, the longest-serving heir-apparent in British history, is almost beyond question.

The issue is just how the one-time royal proselytiser on pet causes, from new grammar schools to offshore wind power, will reconcile himself with the hitherto jealously guarded neutrality of the UK's constitutional monarch.

It is the worst-kept secret of the Establishment that Charles has not only avidly pursued the causes that are dear to him but also secured results.

His vigorously expressed dislike of a proposed £3bn redevelopment of the Chelsea Barracks site in central London led to the Richard Rogers-designed scheme being scrapped.

A High Court judge described

his intervention as “unexpected and unwelcome”, while senior courtiers insisted he had merely been performing his duty to voice the views of “ordinary people” that might otherwise not be heard.

The publication of his letters to ministers also shone a unique light into Charles's access to government.

These “memos” showed that the then heir to the throne successfully lobbied Labour ministers to set up a foundation dedicated to complementary medicine, while also bombarding ministers with his views on issues from the plight of the Patagonian toothfish to the provision of equipment for British troops in Iraq.

The problem comes when such interests, broadly seen as the well-intentioned if slightly bufferish machinations of a senior royal, come not from the first in line to the throne but the King himself.

Amid inevitable headlines about a “meddling royal”, aides have made it plain that they were relaxed about the notion of a change in “style” between Charles and the Queen, whose inscrutability on almost any issue was a masterclass in the doctrine that the sovereign serves as a blank canvas upon which the nation can paint its own self-image.

One royal source said: “The Prince is not going to undergo some sort of personality transplant once he becomes King. He is the man that he is, and when he feels strongly about something he will make it public in a considered, heartfelt manner.”

“The desire is that these interventions will continue at the appropriate moments but at a somewhat diminished rate and intensity.”

“The test will be that what is said does not have the effect of damaging the monarchy.”

A very similar message was conveyed by Catherine Mayer, the *Time* magazine journalist whose unofficial 2015 biography, *Charles: The Heart of a King*, suggested that the then heir to the throne was looking towards a “potential new model of kingship”.

She told *i*: “I have no doubt that there will be changes and Charles will be a more forthright monarch. But equally he is absolutely aware of the bear traps.”



FAMILY

Prince William is heir to throne in new line of royal succession

By **Molly Blackall**

The Queen's death has inevitable ramifications for the line of royal succession.

King Charles' eldest son, Prince William, is the new heir and as such is expected to become the Prince of Wales, the title traditionally granted to the son or grandson who is the heir apparent to the throne. He and Kate will also now be known as the Duke and Duchess of Cornwall and Cambridge.

Prince William is expected to be followed as sovereign by his eldest child, Prince George.

The line of succession is not dependent solely on birth.

Since 1688, Parliament has been able to regulate the line and intervene in the case of misgovernment, after King James II fled the country

and Parliament decided the throne should not be given to his young son but his daughter Mary and her husband, William of Orange, to rule jointly.

The throne was traditionally handed down to the eldest son. However, in 2013, the Succession to the Crown Act was brought in, meaning eldest sons and daughters of any future monarch now have an equal right to the throne. It applies to all those born after 28 October 2011.

The new line of succession is as follows: Prince William, followed by his three children, Prince George, Princess Charlotte and Prince Louis; Prince Harry, followed by his children, Archie Mountbatten-Windsor and Lilibet Mountbatten-Windsor; Prince Andrew, his daughter Princess Beatrice, followed by her daughter, Sienna Mapelli Mozzi.



The Queen investing Charles as Prince of Wales at a ceremony held at Caernarfon Castle in 1969. PA



A life in pictures

Newborn Elizabeth

In May 1926, Elizabeth, Duchess of York, holding Princess Elizabeth, the future Queen; then just a few weeks old SPEAIGHT/HULTON ARCHIVE/GETTY



Teenage sisters

Princesses Elizabeth and Margaret with their dog Chung at the Royal Lodge in Windsor on 11 April 1942. They were 15 and 11 years old at the time. HULTON DEUTSCH/CORBIS/GETTY



Silver Jubilee

The Queen's Silver Jubilee in 1977, marking her first 25 years on the throne, was the first major Jubilee the UK had celebrated

ANWAR HUSSEIN/GETTY

The coronation

Elizabeth II was crowned on 2 June 1953. She is pictured here in Westminster Abbey, London, after the ceremony HULTON ARCHIVE/GETTY





Golden Queen

Her Majesty riding in the gold state coach as part of her Golden Jubilee celebrations in 2002, which marked 50 years on the throne. She rode from Buckingham Palace to St Paul's Cathedral, waving to huge crowds TIM GRAHAM PICTURE LIBRARY/GETTY



Wedding day

On 20 November 1947, Princess Elizabeth married Philip, Duke of Edinburgh. She first met Philip when she was just eight years old. They were engaged 13 years later HULTON DEUTSCH/CORBIS/GETTY



Royal tour

The Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh setting off for Brisbane during their 1954 visit to Australia. It is widely remembered as one of their most ambitious royal tours HULTON DEUTSCH/CORBIS/GETTY



Love story

The Queen and Prince Philip admiring a card given to them by their great-grandchildren Prince George, Princess Charlotte and Prince Louis for their 73rd wedding anniversary in November 2020 CHRIS JACKSON/GETTY



OBITUARY

Steadfast, enduring, dutiful: our constant in an age of change

The Queen's bond with her people defined a reign that bridged generations. By **Cahal Milmo**

In her first Christmas broadcast after her coronation in 1953, a twenty-something Elizabeth II sat behind a microphone in New Zealand while dressed in a formal gown and offered her thoughts on the nature of monarchy.

Over airwaves crackly with static, and in the clipped, cut-glass tones that became as much a trademark as the royal handbag and hat, the new Queen said: "I want to show that the Crown is not merely an abstract symbol of our unity but a personal and living bond between you and me."

The remarks were made just a few weeks into a six-month, 43,618-mile royal progress across the rump of the rapidly shrinking British Empire and its recently liberated dominions, to show off Britain's young sovereign to a rapt world.

While the words were primarily aimed at the citizens of the emerging Commonwealth, they also offer a profound insight into how Elizabeth II saw her role as sovereign and the spirit in which she reigned for what she could not have known then would be more than seven decades on the throne.

The announcement of her death is accompanied by a roll call of achievement expressed in the language of longevity and endurance: Elizabeth II became the oldest, longest-serving monarch the United Kingdom has ever known.

Comparatively few Britons – indeed, few people on the planet – have known anyone else on the British throne, and the Queen remained perhaps the sole public fixture in the cavalcade of political leaders and cultural movers and shakers who have paraded across the national stage for the best part of three-quarters of a century.

But there is another interpretation of Elizabeth II's words from New Zealand in 1953 – that the "personal and living bond" of which she spoke was not so much between her and her subjects, but between her and the Crown she embodied.

Thrust into the gilded cage of queenhood by the love life of her uncle Edward VIII and by her father's early death, Elizabeth II's reign is the story of a careful – often deft but once or twice perilously close to stumbling – walk along the tightrope laid out for her by Britain's unwritten constitution: the preservation and perpetuation of hereditary monarchy by dint of a lifetime of unstinting and, as she saw it, God-ordained service.

Her reign has seen Britain transformed – from a fading but still potent imperial power, whose throne she learned she had inherited in 1952 while in Kenya, to a nation that has swapped its sense

of geopolitical entitlement for a more modest wardrobe of social democracy shaped by influences from multiculturalism to Brexit, gay marriage to devolution.

Throughout this period of tumult, the Queen achieved the extraordinary feat of remaining an indefatigable, if largely unknowable, constant.

While the standing of the other institutions that wielded power at the beginning of her reign – among them Parliament and the Church of England – was eroded, the monarchy emerged as a benchmark for stability.

One senior former Buckingham Palace aide told *i*: "If you are to take one lesson from the reign of Elizabeth II, it is this: the monarch should not seek popularity but show at all times his or her purpose."

"The Queen understood from the outset that she must be above the fray yet not aloof. For her, it was duty, duty and duty with a side serving of duty. That might lead to popularity, but it seemed to me she was popular only because people understood and appreciated her dedication."

"Above all, she knew that the permanency of the monarchy is a paradox. In order to be this rock of stability, the institution itself must change – mostly incrementally and at other times more dramatically, but always constantly."

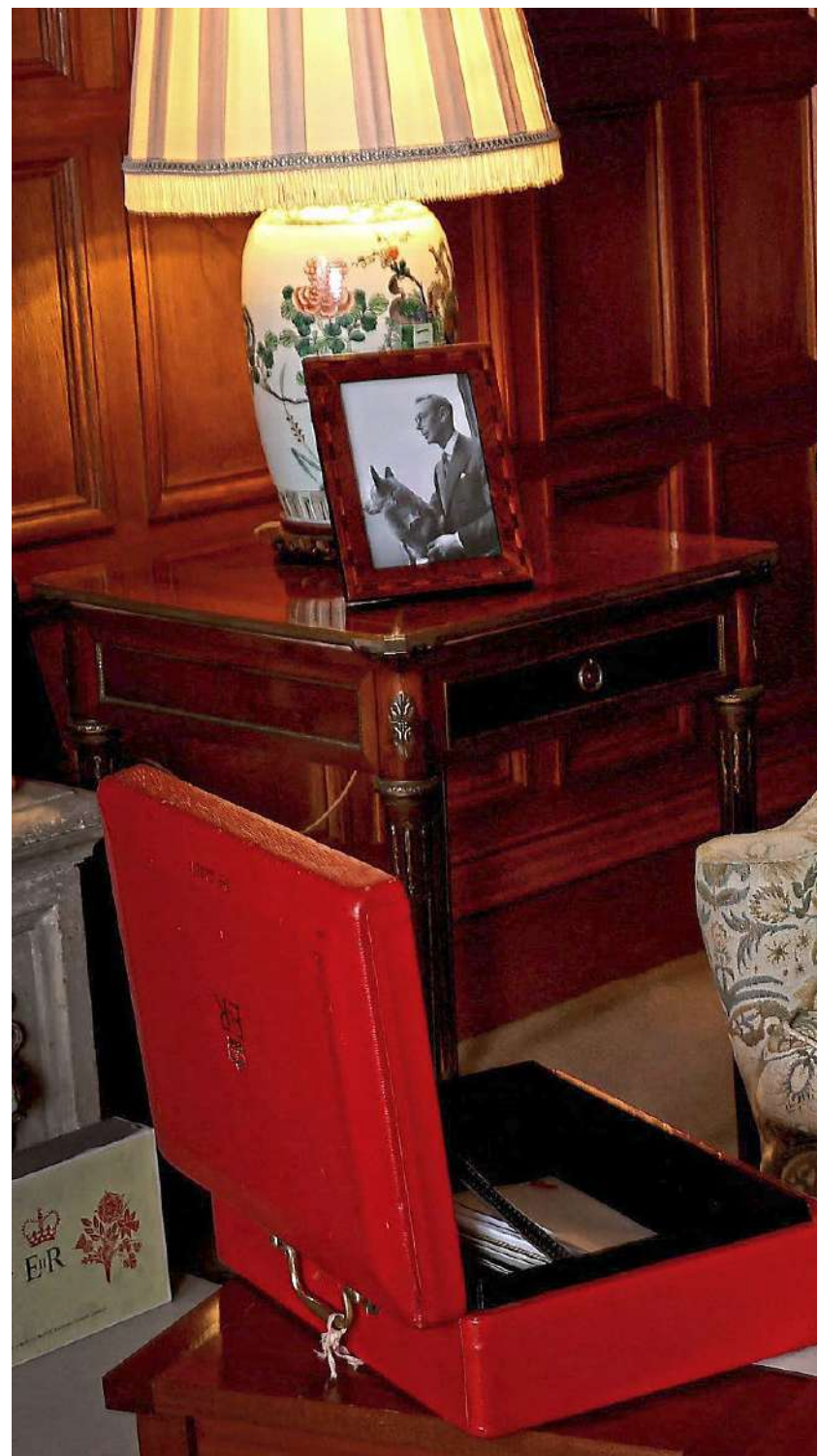
"Yes, there were difficult moments – she didn't want to lose [Royal Yacht] *Britannia* and [there was] the death of Diana. But she listened and changed."

DESTINY SHAPED BY ABDICATION

The crown was a lifelong covenant into which Elizabeth Alexandra Mary Windsor was not born. The eldest child of the Duke and



Speaking at a state banquet at Windsor Castle in 2008 PA



Duchess of York, the flaxen-haired "Lilibet" was originally destined for the closeted life of a second-rank royal, raised initially in a handsome townhouse at 145 Piccadilly in central London and another residence in Richmond Park.

Along with her sister Margaret, she was home-schooled and their exposure to the rest of society, including other children, limited.

Marion Crawford – the governess whose account of life in the York

house, published in 1950, saw her frozen out of royal circles for life – described what would happen when the princesses came across other children in Hyde Park. "They used to smile shyly at those they liked the look of," she wrote. "They would so have loved to speak to them and make friends, but this was never encouraged. I often thought it a pity."

It was the irreconcilable constitutional difficulties presented by Edward VIII's determination to

End of an era Queen's lifetime of service

21 April 1926 Princess Elizabeth born to the Duke and Duchess of York (later George VI and Queen Elizabeth, later the Queen Mother).

21 August 1930 Becomes an older sister when Princess Margaret, her only sibling, is born.

11 December 1936 Princess Elizabeth becomes the heir presumptive after her father takes the throne upon the abdication of her uncle, Edward VIII.

April 1945 The princess insists on signing up to the Auxiliary Territorial Service, the women's branch of the

British Army. She trains as a driver and mechanic.

8 May 1945 Elizabeth and Margaret are allowed to leave Buckingham Palace to secretly participate in VE Day celebrations.

20 November 1947 Marries Royal Navy lieutenant Philip Mountbatten, her third cousin through Queen Victoria, at Westminster Abbey. The heir presumptive adopts her husband's title, becoming Princess Elizabeth, Duchess of Edinburgh.

14 November 1948 Princess

Elizabeth gives birth to her first child – Prince Charles.

1949 Princess Elizabeth and her husband move to Malta where they live in the 18th-century villa, Guardamangia, on the outskirts of the capital, Valletta. They remain in Malta until 1951 while Philip is stationed there with HMS *Magpie*.

15 August 1950 Princess Anne is born (right).



6 February 1952 George VI dies aged 56 and Princess Elizabeth becomes Queen while in Kenya on a Commonwealth tour.

2 June 1953 Queen Elizabeth's coronation at Westminster Abbey is broadcast by the BBC.

18 February 1960 Prince Andrew is born.

10 March 1964 Prince Edward is born.

21 June 1969 A fly-on-the-wall

documentary about the Royal Family is broadcast, giving audiences an unprecedented view of a year in the private and public life of the Queen and her family. It is not shown again for decades, however, supposedly at the request of Buckingham Palace.

1977 The Queen celebrates her Silver Jubilee – 25 years on the throne.

13 June 1981 The Queen is shot at by a 17-year-old male, Marcus Sarjeant, as she turns down Horseguards' Parade for the Trooping the Colour ceremony. He fires six blank



Eighty per cent of Britons said they had a positive view of the Queen as she began her Platinum Jubilee year
BUCKINGHAM PALACE/AFP

marry American divorcee Wallis Simpson which altered the course of Princess Elizabeth's life.

When her uncle abdicated in 1936, placing the Duke of York on the throne at the age of 41 as George VI, it is said that the young Margaret turned to her sister and asked: "Does that mean you will have to be the next queen?" After "Lilibet", then aged 10, replied in the affirmative, Margaret apparently responded: "Poor you."

Although Princess Elizabeth's tutoring was duly expanded to include constitutional history, anchored in the weighty ponderings of the great Victorian essayist Walter Bagehot, and additional efforts in French, the relative youth of her father meant any preparations for the queenhood were carried out at a sedate pace.

But the burdens of office and the pressures of the Second World War, during which the Queen

Mother famously rejected out of hand the suggestion that she and her daughters should be evacuated to Canada, took their toll on the king's health.

There was a brief period of post-war freedom. Princess Elizabeth moved to Malta while her new husband, Prince Philip, completed his naval service, and she played the role of dutiful forces wife.

While back in London, the young couple made occasional forays to

the cinema, slipping into their seats after the lights had gone down to revel in the anonymity that would all too soon prove unrepeatable.

Fate intervened on 6 February 1952 while the couple were in Kenya, en route to a tour of Australia. Having returned to the Treetops Hotel after a night on safari, the news was broken by the Duke of Edinburgh to his wife that George VI had succumbed to lung cancer. The king was 56; his successor was just 25.

As the Queen herself later put it: "In a way, I didn't have an apprenticeship. My father died much too young. It was all very sudden, taking and making the best job you can. It was a question of just maturing into what you are doing and accepting that here you are, and it's your fate."

It was a matter-of-fact pragmatism that served the new monarch well.

In her constitutional role as the fulcrum between government and power, the Queen received a daily flow of "Red Boxes" containing, among other documents, the Red Book (the weekly top-secret intelligence briefing seen by the prime minister), correspondence from Cabinet ministers, and a report on the previous day's proceedings in Parliament.

She did not stint on her homework, dispatching her boxes with religious regularity and building up an encyclopaedic knowledge of government and the minutiae of its affairs.

During her reign the Queen oversaw 15 prime ministers, starting with Winston Churchill, an initial sceptic on the young Queen's political talents who rapidly became besotted with her, and ending with Liz Truss, who formally took up the role earlier this week.

The Queen's admiration of Sir Winston's political nous is a matter of record. Quite what the monarch thought of the rest of her prime ministers is untold.

For their part, the incumbents of Downing Street more often than not spoke fondly of their weekly audience with the monarch (the times of which have oscillated

between Thursdays at 5.30pm, Tuesdays under Tony Blair, and Wednesdays at 6.30pm).

Harold Wilson once joked about his trips "to see mother", but added that his audiences with the Queen were the only time when he could have a serious conversation in the knowledge that its contents would not be leaked and that an usurper was not after his job.

Contrary to popular belief, the Queen is said to have grown to like her first female prime minister, though Margaret Thatcher is well known to have disliked weekends at Balmoral.

Mr Blair (*inset*) was left in no doubt as to his place in the pecking order. He wrote in his memoir: "She was... direct. 'You are my 10th prime minister. The first was Winston. That was before you were born.' I got a sense of my relative seniority, or lack of it."

SOUNDING BOARD

The Queen understood well the usefulness of her role as a prime ministerial sounding board. She once told the BBC: "They unburden themselves. They know one can be impartial. It's rather nice to feel that one's a sort of sponge and everybody can come and tell one things."

The "sponge" metaphor can perhaps be extended to Elizabeth II's interactions with the rest of her subjects. Not only did she uphold her duty not to divulge anything discussed with her prime ministers, she punctiliously avoided being seen to have an opinion on nearly everything – the famous "blank canvas" upon which the public were able to project their hopes, beliefs and aspirations for the monarchy and themselves.

By soaking up controversy in pursuit of regal impartiality, at least in public, the Queen was sometimes accused of being cold – a woman whose facial expressions were either a vaguely inscrutable moue or the full 100-watt royal grin.

As former foreign secretary Douglas Hurd once put it, she had "trained the feelings out of herself".

History may yet judge that to be a harsh summary.

Baron Hurd of Westwell's view highlighted a recurring tension of the modern monarchy – the extent to which the curtain of formality and regality could be drawn aside to show a more tangible Royal Family as Britain moved from an age of deference to one of celebrity fascination.



The Queen understood from the outset that she must be above the fray, yet not aloof. For her, it was duty, duty and duty

cartridges before being tackled by a guardsman and police.

29 July 1981 Prince Charles marries Lady Diana Spencer at St Paul's Cathedral.

21 June 1982 Prince William is born.

15 September 1984 Prince Henry of Wales, known as Prince Harry, is born.

1992 The Queen's "annus horribilis". The Princess Royal and Captain Phillips divorce, the Prince and Princess of Wales (pictured right) and the Duke and Duchess of York

separate, and Windsor Castle is hit by a fire. During a speech in November to mark the 40th year of her accession, the Queen says: "... 1992 is not a year on which I shall look back with undiluted pleasure. In the words of one of my more sympathetic correspondents, it has turned out to be an 'annus horribilis'."

The year also sees the publication of Andrew Morton's controversial biography of Princess Diana, *Diana: Her True Story*, which reveals details of her unhappy marriage and



allegations of infidelity on the part of Prince Charles.

1993 The Queen starts to pay income tax.

28 August 1996: Prince Charles and Princess Diana's divorce is finalised.

31 August 1997 Princess Diana dies after a car crash in Paris. The Royal Family is criticised in the media for choosing not to mourn publicly.

2002 The Queen's Golden Jubilee. Princess Margaret dies aged 71 on 9 February and Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother dies on 30 March,

a few days before she would have turned 102.

9 April 2005 Prince Charles marries Camilla Parker Bowles. Instead of using the title of Princess of Wales, she uses the title Duchess of Cornwall, which is her husband's secondary designation. Neither the Queen nor Prince Philip attends the civil ceremony at Windsor Guildhall but both are present at the subsequent Church of England service of blessing.

29 April 2011 Prince William



OBITUARY

'She's been on stamps, on our currency, and in our dreams'

Continued from page 15

An early flirtation with this idea – a television documentary made in 1969 going behind the scenes with the Windsors called *The Royal Family* – was a massive popular success.

Made with the encouragement of Prince Philip, its first screening was watched by fully two-thirds of the UK population and it was repeated time and again on the BBC and ITV in its first year, as Britons flocked to view the domestic routines of the innermost circle of the monarchy as never seen before.

In an era that preceded the ubiquity of celebrity, it was hard to overstate the public interest in the Duke of Edinburgh flipping sausages on the Balmoral barbecue and the Queen making salad.

Never before had a British monarch been seen asking her family: "How do you keep a regally straight face when a footman tells you, 'Your Majesty, your next audience is with a gorilla?'" It was an official visitor, but he looked just like a gorilla.

But behind the scenes in Buckingham Palace – and beyond – it was decided that emphasising the ordinariness of the Queen was not the way forward.

Among the film's most robust detractors was David Attenborough, who was at the time a BBC controller.

He wrote to the producers: "You're killing the monarchy, you know, with this film you're making. The whole institution depends on mystique and the tribal chief in his hut. If any member of the tribe ever sees inside the hut, then the whole system of the tribal chieftaindom is damaged and tribe eventually disintegrates."

The naturalist was in effect paraphrasing Bagehot, who had written a century before in his book *The English Constitution* that a key factor in maintaining the standing of the monarchy was ensuring that "we must not let in the daylight upon magic".

The Queen appears to have agreed. It is thought to have been on her orders that the 105-minute

documentary was withdrawn, never to be shown at its full length again, along with more than 43 hours of raw footage, and locked away in the royal archive in Windsor.

What took its place for much of the next three decades was the duty-driven version of royalty with which Elizabeth II instinctively identified, having learned from her father and her grandfather, George V.

That "personal and living bond" between the Queen, her office and her subjects was now the main narrative of her reign, and to a greater or lesser extent would remain so



Opening the refurbished Somerset House East Wing in 2012 AFP

as she traversed the world the equivalent of 42 times.

It was not without its moments of regal flair and grit. In 1961, she overrode the advice of courtiers and ministers to insist that a trip to Ghana should go ahead despite assassination threats against her host (and recent replacement as head of state), Kwame Nkrumah.

Twenty years later, the Queen was praised for her sangfroid when 17-year-old Marcus Sarjeant fired six blank shots at her from a starting pistol as she rode past during Trooping the Colour. It later transpired that the adolescent, who had boasted, "I am going to

stun and mystify the world – I will become the most famous teenager in the world," had originally intended to use live ammunition but had been unable to secure either the necessary bullets or weapon.

EMBRACING CHANGE

Addressing Parliament at the start of her Golden Jubilee celebrations in 2002, she made clear perhaps the most important lesson of what would be her seven decades on the throne. She said: "Change is a constant; managing it has become an expanding discipline. The way we embrace it defines our future."



End of an era A timeline of the main events in the Queen's long and dutiful life

marries Catherine Middleton, known as Kate, at Westminster Abbey.

May 2011 The Queen makes a state visit to the Republic of Ireland, becoming the first British monarch in 100 years to do so.

2012 The Diamond Jubilee. She is the first British monarch since her great, great-grandmother, Queen Victoria, to celebrate 60 years on the throne.

22 July 2013 Prince George of Cambridge is born to Prince William and Catherine. He is third in line to the throne.

26 March 2015 The Succession to the Crown Act ends male primogeniture in the Commonwealth. It means that if the Duke and Duchess of Cambridge's second child is a girl she will not be overtaken in the line of succession by younger male siblings. And a person married to a Roman Catholic can accede to the throne and only the first six people in line to the throne must seek the sovereign's permission to marry.

2 May 2015 Princess Charlotte is born.

9 September 2015 The Queen becomes the longest-reigning monarch in British history after, passing Queen Victoria's 63 years and 216 days. In October 2016, she becomes the world's longest-reigning living monarch upon the death of Thailand's King Bhumibol Adulyadej, who reigned for 70 years and 126 days. On 12 June 2022 she becomes the second-

longest serving monarch in history, with 70 years and 127 days on the throne.

23 April 2018 Prince Louis is born

19 May 2018 Prince Harry marries US actress Meghan Markle (left). The Queen confers on her grandson a dukedom, making the couple the Duke and Duchess of Sussex. They welcome a son, Archie, in



2019 and in 2021 a daughter, Lilibet, named after the Queen, whose family referred to her by this nickname.

16 November 2019 Prince Andrew appears in a disastrous interview on BBC's *Newsnight* intended to quell speculation about his relationship with billionaire US sex offender Jeffrey Epstein. In February 2022 Andrew reaches an out-of-court settlement in the US with Virginia Giuffre, who accused him of sexual assault and battery when she was 17 after she was trafficked by Epstein.

From the outset, the Queen had been willing to embrace change. Prior to her coronation, she had swatted aside the advice of the Churchill and the then-Archbishop of Canterbury to insist that the ceremony be televised. The subsequent coverage is regarded as one of the coming-of-age moments of television as a mass medium, and Elizabeth II was among the first to harness its power.

But by the 90s, a mixture of circumstance, cruel fate and a regality which was mistaken for uncaring inflexibility served up the defining crises of the reign.



Princess Elizabeth and Prince Philip surrounded by family on their wedding day, 1947 STR/AFP/GETTY

The unstitching of the marriages of all but one of the Queen's offspring brought the Royal Family a decade of unwanted headlines, as the philanderings of the next generation of Windsors – led by the unravelling union of Prince Charles and Diana – were laid bare to an avid worldwide audience.

When coupled with the fire that destroyed a significant portion of Windsor Castle, causing £36m of damage, and an outcry over whether the repair bill would be met by the taxpayer, the Queen let slip the mask of personal inscrutability to memorably declare 1992 her “annus horribilis”.

In the closest that a monarch can probably come to a *mea culpa*, she said: “There can be no doubt, of course, that criticism is good for people and institutions that are part of public life. No institution – city, monarchy, whatever – should expect to be free from the scrutiny of those who give it their loyalty and support, not to mention those who don’t.”

With the added gesture of becoming a sovereign who paid income tax, it was hoped that the monarchy had been put back on an even keel. But the greatest test of her reign was to follow five years later, during seven extraordinary days of spontaneous national mourning, when the Queen's instinctive desire to confront upheaval with calm reflection was misinterpreted as a lack of feeling in the wake of Diana's death in a car crash in Paris.

While the nation was expressing its grief – some 1.3 million bouquets costing around £25m were laid outside Kensington Palace in the sunshine of September 1997 – the Queen remained in Balmoral as she sought to protect her grandsons.

The threat to the popularity of the monarchy, led by a chorus of tabloids asking why there was no public display of royal grief, was resolved by a television address, and a change in protocol to allow the raising of a half-mast Union Flag over Buckingham Palace.

Delivering only the second televised special address of her reign, the Queen paid tribute to Diana, memorably saying she was speaking both as monarch and “as a grandmother”.

Subsequently, a new streamlined version of “The Firm” was unveiled with a pared-back civil list and a new funding settlement.

This resulted in a more accessible monarchy, as the Queen was seen to “parachute” into the opening ceremony of the 2012 London Olympics in a pink sequinned dress

With the Duke of Edinburgh at the Palace on the day of her coronation, 1953 GETTY



after insisting she be filmed with Daniel Craig as James Bond inside Buckingham Palace.

THE NEW ELIZABETHAN LEGACY

During her 1953 address, Elizabeth II had declared: “Some people have expressed the hope that my reign may mark a new Elizabethan age. Frankly, I do not myself feel at all

like my great Tudor forbear, who was blessed with neither husband nor children, who ruled as a despot and was never able to leave her native shores.”

Some have argued, forcibly, that the age of Elizabeth II will be remembered for its stability, but perhaps little else. Speaking in 2015, the historian David Starkey

said: “To the monarch's existing political rights (to be consulted, to encourage and to warn), she has added a fourth: the duty to be silent and make no political comment... The effect has been to deprive republicanism of the necessary oxygen of controversy and largely asphyxiate it.”

This, however, is to misstate the significance of the reign of a woman 30 per cent of whose subjects believed in 1964 that she had been chosen for her role directly by God.

A smaller proportion of Britons will believe the same to be true of her son, Charles, as he takes the crown. Yet his mother straddled an era in which monarchy was effectively stripped of that crutch of divine provenance and much else besides in terms of deference and obedience, only to be replaced by approval and affection.

By 2017, more than three-quarters of Britons wanted to see the United Kingdom remain a monarchy and at the time of her Platinum Jubilee this summer, some 80 per cent of the population said they had a positive view of her.

As one former courtier, who spent a decade working for both the Queen and her heir, put it: “Only history will judge whether Elizabeth II was a successful... monarch. The joke used to be that she would ask people at Palace garden parties, ‘Have you come far?’ I think we as a country have indeed come far. And we owe her a huge debt of gratitude for helping us to do that.”

Walking with her beloved corgis during the Windsor Horse Trials, 1980 PA



8 January 2020 The Duke and Duchess of Sussex announce on social media their intention to “step back as ‘senior’ members of the Royal Family”, adding that they will continue to “fully support Her Majesty the Queen”. It is widely reported that members of the Royal Family, including the Queen, were “blindsided” by the announcement, though Harry later denies this.
5 April 2020 With the UK in lockdown at the start of the pandemic, the Queen broadcasts to

the nation and the Commonwealth in an exceptionally rare move. “We will meet again,” she says.

20 November 2020 A photograph is released of the Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh to mark the couple's 73rd wedding anniversary. It will be their last before the Duke's death.

7 March 2021 Harry and Meghan appear in an interview with US broadcaster Oprah Winfrey, during which Meghan, who is mixed-race, reveals that there were “concerns and conversations” within the family



before Archie was born about “how dark his skin might be”. She also says of the royals: “They were willing to lie to protect other members of the family, but they weren't willing to tell the truth to protect me and my husband.”

9 April 2021 Prince Philip dies aged 99. His funeral takes place on 17 April, during Covid restrictions. The Queen, wearing a face mask (left), observes social distancing rules by sitting alone in St George's Chapel at Windsor Castle as she bids farewell.

It emerges that on the evening before the funeral, Downing Street staff attended two separate parties, flouting lockdown restrictions.

2022 The Queen marks 70 years on the throne with her Platinum Jubilee.

20 February 2022 Buckingham Palace announces that the Queen has tested positive for Covid. She resumes in-person public engagements two weeks later.

8 September 2022 Buckingham Palace announces the death of the Queen at Balmoral.



The Queen during a tour of India in 1961; (inset) with Prince Philip in Fiji in 1977
FOX PHOTOS/GETTY



The Queen tapped into nostalgia that has kept monarchy strong

OPINION

Patrick Cockburn



An hour before the Queen died, I looked out of my window in Canterbury at the medieval church of St Dunstan's, which is associated with two historic events that help to explain why the British monarchy has lasted so long while others have not.

The first event took place on 12 July 1174 and illustrates the strong survival instinct of British monarchs down the centuries. On that day, Henry II, the formidable founder of the Plantagenet dynasty and ruler of England and half of France, dressed in a hair shirt under a smock, walked barefoot from St Dunstan's to Canterbury Cathedral half a mile away in expiation of his responsibility for the murder by his knights of Archbishop Thomas Becket.

Whipped by monks, Henry went to Becket's tomb in the crypt and confessed that his "incautious words" had led to the killing. His penitence went down spectacularly well with onlookers and, in what was taken as an instant sign of divine approval, Henry's armies started winning in the field.

Several centuries later, St Dunstan's became associated with

another more gruesome aspect of the British monarchy, which is that their enemies have seldom flourished. In the crypt of the church is the head of Sir Thomas More, former chancellor of England executed in 1535 on the orders of Henry VIII for "maliciously denying the royal supremacy". The head was given to his daughter, Margaret Roper, whose entrance to her home in Canterbury – a few hundred yards from the church – still stands.

If the English monarchy differed from its contemporaries on the Continent, it was because of the frequency with which monarchs from Edward II to Charles I were overthrown. They learned a certain flexibility and, from the 19th century on, were protected from being targeted by their loss of real power. By the time that Kaiser Wilhelm II and Czar Nicholas II were destroying their dynasties by starting a catastrophic war in 1914, British monarchs had been reduced to the safer role of national icon.

Queen Elizabeth played that role perfectly. At first, she was a symbol of empire. She was head of the Church of England, but as organised religion failed and ceased to be a sign of identity, the veneration for the Queen and the monarch increased. In time, worship of the Royal Family seemed to replace the place previously occupied by religion.

By not modernising too abruptly or overtly, the monarchy did not appear to be playing to the gallery. Did this make it easier for Britain to give up the empire grudgingly but without the same

agonies as France? Probably it helped and diminished the sense of political loss.

The monarchy gave a comforting sense of continuity with the past, even if that sense was largely bogus, often concealing radical social and political change. Its existence did something to hold back such changes until they were irresistible.

As a child, I used to look at a photograph of my mother, Patricia Arbuthnot, in a long white dress just before she was presented as a debutante at Buckingham Palace in 1931 at the height of the Depression. Even in the 50s this seemed to me to be redolent of an era as long gone as the aristocratic ball in Brussels before the Battle of Waterloo.

My mother would describe how they waited in a line of cars outside the palace. Her father, a retired major in the Scots Guards and wearing full dress uniform, had brought sandwiches which, for lack of anywhere else to put them, he had placed in his bearskin helmet. As the family sat in their overheated car waiting to enter the palace, the butter in the sandwiches began to melt and threatened to spread on to my mother's elaborate dress.

The age of debutantes in their finery passed away, but the monarchy was generally astute in avoiding being identified as effete aristocrats. Their engagement with politics was limited and generally uncontentious. Edward VII and

George V agreed to the sharp reduction in the power of the House of Lords in 1911 by threatening to create more peers. But there were few such episodes.

A case can be made that the monarchy has continued to play a strong role in British cultural identity. I have a vague childhood memory of people in cinemas singing "God Save the Queen" at the end of a film. It is difficult to imagine that happening now.

By the turn of the century, Anthony King could write in *The British Constitution* that "the

United Kingdom today, though still a monarchy in form, is all but a republic in fact". There was a large dollop of nostalgia in attitudes to the monarchy and fascination with the Royal Family as celebrities. This is often portrayed as new, but I think it was Lord Northcliffe, a century ago, who said that royal funerals were second only to wars as topics about which newspaper readers most wanted to know.

The monarchy will continue much as before, since for a long time past, only a quarter of the population has wanted to get rid of it. The percentage may have been higher during Queen Victoria's reign, writes King, adding that people will probably "be singing 'God save the Queen (or King)' for decades, possibly even centuries to come – if they can remember the words".



PEOPLE

World leaders set to fly in to pay respects

By Karl McDonald and Graham Keeley

Monarchs and heads of state from around the world are expected to fly to London to pay condolences to a figure who was respected far beyond the borders of her realm.

Powerful tributes from US President Joe Biden, Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi, Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky and Dubai's Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid al Maktoum illustrated the breadth of her impact.

In Europe, several royal families paid warm tribute, and their monarchs are likely to attend the funeral.

King Carl XVI Gustaf of Sweden and King Willem-Alexander of the Netherlands both reflected on personal bonds with Elizabeth.

The Queen and King Felipe VI of Spain were distant relations through Queen Victoria, with the Spanish sovereign referring to his senior as Tia Lillibet – Aunt Elizabeth. She is popularly referred to La Reina Isabel – rather than Elizabeth – in Spain.

The funeral of the Duke of Edinburgh was understated due to the restrictions imposed to combat Covid-19.

But at Winston's Churchill's memorial, the last state affair of comparable magnitude, representatives were sent from 112 countries, including five kings, two queens, one emperor, 15 presidents and 14 prime ministers.

SOCIETY

Commonwealth leaders mourn monarch's loss

By Karl McDonald

Flags fell to half mast from the Caribbean to the south Pacific as the news of the death of the head of 15 states emerged.

The depth of feeling in many countries was reflected in messages from Commonwealth leaders, who remarked on the Queen's personal impact.

Justin Trudeau, Canada's Prime Minister, said the departed monarch's "service to Canadians will forever remain an important part of our country's history".

In New Zealand, premier Jacinda Ardern said: "The Queen was a much loved and admired monarch, whose record reign of 70 years is an absolute testament to her, and her commitment to us all. She was extraordinary."

She presided over dramatic change, as the British Empire she inherited saw colonies become independent states. Today, 56 states make up the voluntary association she headed.

She trod tightrope of monarchy and motherhood

FAMILY

Jennie Bond



The Queen became chief executive of a firm with global reach when she was only 25, a mother of two small children. She didn't apply for the job, which came with a lifelong commitment, but she accepted her destiny and the restrictions it placed on her family life.

She was very much a woman of her generation and upbringing. She came from a happy and stable family, but one in which it was perfectly normal to see more of your nannies and governess than your parents.

As a result, she was sometimes seen as a rather distant mother who would be more inclined to greet four-year-old Charles with a pat on the head than to sweep him up in her arms.

It's true that Elizabeth was not a naturally demonstrative woman; in fact she was rather shy.

But she clearly enjoyed having children, and her decision to have two more, 10 years after Charles and Anne, was proof that family was important to her.

By then she was well-versed in being Queen and so was able to relax more into the fun and joy of motherhood.

As her children grew older, she stepped back once more and allowed them to make their own decisions – and their own mistakes. Sometimes to the frustration of



Queen Elizabeth II with the Duke of Edinburgh and their children in spring 1968 PA

her advisers she would only ever intervene in her children's lives if it became inevitable.

She allowed Charles and Diana to war openly for years before finally ordering them to divorce. She waited until Andrew had disgraced himself on national television over allegations about his friendship with a convicted paedophile before sacking him from his official duties.

And she behaved as both

matriarch and monarch when she told her grandson Harry and his wife Meghan that a royal life of service could not involve cherry-picking the jobs they wanted to do. Walking the tightrope of acting as boss, mother and grandmother could not have been easy.

The Queen was probably at her most relaxed when she was around horses. And that passion brought her particularly close to her

daughter Anne and granddaughter Zara. She followed their equestrian careers avidly and with pride.

Her daughter-in-law, Sophie Wessex, perfected her own skills so that she could join the Queen on her frequent rides around Windsor Great Park. Sophie came to be viewed almost as another daughter; and they shared many an afternoon together.

It was at the racecourse that we

She would only intervene in her children's lives if it became inevitable

occasionally got a glimpse of the spontaneous, humorous woman beneath the mask of monarch.

In the Royal Box at Ascot, for example, you could see the Queen thumping the railing and beaming with delight when one of her horses came in first. Once, when she won the sweepstake, she was filmed holding out her prize to show her elderly mother: "Look, Mummy," she cried. "£15! I won £15!"

Another of Elizabeth's passions was undoubtedly her husband. She adored Prince Philip, and they enjoyed an exceptionally long and happy marriage. She said his death, aged 99, had left a huge void in her life. He had been the only person in the world who treated her in private as an equal and viewed her as a woman – his wife.

She in turn had shrewdly made him head of the family, handling the big domestic issues and running the estates, even though he had to defer to her in public.

From the abdication of her uncle Edward VIII in 1936, through the turmoil of divorces, deaths, tragedies and scandals of the succeeding decades, the Queen did her best to remain on civil terms with everyone in her often troubled family.

She was a wise counsel to many of them, and especially to her heirs, Charles and William.

They have now lost their mother, grandmother and their role model for a job that the Queen made so uniquely her own.

Being the Queen's bodyguard was my life's greatest honour

TRADITION

Alexander Owen

As the nation reflects on the life of our longest-reigning monarch and mourns the loss of a figurehead who touched our grandparents' hearts as much as she touched ours, I consider myself uniquely lucky to have orbited her world for a short but bright time. For a glorious decade I was one of the soldiers fiercely proud to be part of the sovereign's mounted bodyguard.

Custodians of ancestry harking back nearly four centuries, we were the senior regiment and our *raison d'être* was the service and protection of the crown. We were

Household Cavalrymen. In my last two years of service I commanded Her Majesty's escort on four occasions and it was the greatest honour of my life. The Sovereign's Escort is the name given to the 120-strong group of men and horses that take – and protect – the Queen and guests from location to location, normally during a state visit or state opening of parliament.

Historically, such escorts would have been used as a bodyguard for the sovereign when moving around the country, and the London-to-Windsor escort was common. Today, this has been replaced with armoured black Land Rovers and police outriders, but sometimes – when diplomatic relations or national pride are at stake – only horsepower will do.

I was just one of the many former officers that commanded a Sovereign's Escort, and each will cherish their individual memories. For me, I will never forget riding on



my beloved charger, George, into the inner courtyard at Buckingham Palace to pick up the royal carriage for the first time. Away from the cameras and crowds, I was party

As custodians of tribal ancestry, our raison d'être was protection

to the intimate moment when the Duke of Edinburgh helped the Queen into the carriage and they shared a joke about getting tangled up in their spurs, swords and accoutrement of state.

In moments like this it was clear just how impressive our nonagenarian Queen and Prince Philip really were. The Queen was affectionately known as "Granny" behind the barrack walls, but on parade she was far from a granny.

Queen Elizabeth was renowned for having one of the sharpest eyes for detail on parade. This was never truer than during the annual Queen's Birthday Parade (colloquially known as Trooping the Colour). The monarch had attended more troopings than anyone. She knew the format like the back of her gloved hand and would be the first to spot mistakes. An apocryphal tale tells of a former officer carrying out an incorrect sword flourish (salute). Two days later he received

a letter opening with the fateful words: "Her Majesty was surprised to see..."

Knowing that "The Boss" was watching so closely, and genuinely cared, made the stakes all the higher. If you watched closely you would have noticed as she moved along the ranks, that everyone on parade grew by inches when her gaze fell upon them. These are soldiers who have often faced the horrors of war, and yet the praise or criticism of their colonel-in-chief cannot be underestimated.

Since the days of Charles II the Household Cavalry has provided a guard to the monarch. With the passing of Queen Elizabeth II, it will now be retitled The King's Life Guard. I'm sure I speak for many when I say that it was an honour to have once been a member of The Queen's Life Guard.

Major Alexander Owen served for 10 years with The Blues and Royals



A family affair



The first grandchild

On 20 November 1977, Queen Elizabeth II was photographed with Princess Anne and her son Peter Phillips at Balmoral Castle. He was the first of the Queen's eight grandchildren

ANWAR HUSSEIN/GETTY



Familiar face

The Queen shared a smile with Prince Harry as she inspected soldiers at the Sovereign's Parade at the Royal Military Academy Sandhurst in Surrey on 12 April 2006

TIM GRAHAM/GETTY



Fun and games

In June 1987, the Queen enjoyed watching a polo match with Prince William and Prince Harry in the Royal Box at the Guards Polo Club, Smiths Lawn, Windsor

TIM GRAHAM/GETTY



COMPILED BY
ANNA BONET



Family gathering

The Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh surrounded by seven of their great-grandchildren at Balmoral Castle in 2018. The Duke and Duchess of Cambridge shared this photograph shortly after Prince Philip passed away. DUKE AND DUCHESS OF CAMBRIDGE/AP



Meeting Archie

On 8 May 2019, Meghan, Duchess of Sussex, and Prince Harry introduced the Queen to her great-grandson. Prince Philip and Doria Ragland looked on happily CHRIS ALLERTON/PA



George and his great-grandmother

The Queen having a moment with Prince George outside the Church of St Mary Magdalene on the Sandringham Estate for the Christening of Princess Charlotte in July 2015 CHRIS JACKSON/GETTY



A happy family

In 1965, Prince Andrew rocked Prince Edward in a pram in the garden of Frogmore House, with the Queen, and with the rest of her family PA



HISTORY

The transformation of the second Elizabethan Age

Her 70-year reign marked huge social change for the UK and the Commonwealth. By **Etan Smallman**

At 7.30am on 6 February, 1952, a servant found King George VI had died in his sleep at Sandringham House. As the news filtered around the world – taking more than five hours to reach the 25-year-old new Queen at Treetops hotel in Kenya – the second Elizabethan Age had already begun.

During her years on the throne the United Kingdom transformed beyond recognition. People's living standards, the environment, technology and transport, politics at home and abroad, social norms and attitudes – all have changed between 1952 and now in a way that rivals the impact of the industrial revolution under the four kings of Georgian Britain.

As the Queen said in 1997: "I sometimes sense the world is changing almost too fast for its inhabitants."

Her coronation in 1953 was heralded by the conquering of Everest. One of her Commonwealth subjects, the New Zealander Edmund Hillary, had actually planted the Union flag on top of the world's highest mountain four days earlier, but the news was only released on the morning of the historic ceremony in Westminster Abbey.

While the dawn of this new era was a time of national pride, the humble realities of everyday life could not be ignored in towns and

cities still pockmarked by bomb damage from the Second World War. People had to wait for more than a year after the pageantry of the Queen being crowned until the rationing of bacon ended. This was the original era of austerity, a word that would again resonate in the nation's consciousness decades later.

Technology has brought some of the biggest changes since then. Just 20 days in, the first of her 15 prime ministers, Winston Churchill, announced that Britain had entered the atomic age, with the development of its own bomb.

No one had yet set eyes on DNA's double helix. It would be another year before British scientist Francis Crick walked into The Eagle pub in Cambridge with his US colleague James Watson and announced that they had "found the secret of life" – a breakthrough that would reverberate throughout the Queen's reign, revolutionising not only how we treated illness but how we understood our own humanity.

The World Wide Web, invented by another Briton, Tim Berners-Lee, would make a similar impact. Victoria's great-great granddaughter, who was the first person to have her coronation televised, would become the first monarch to send an email, in 1976. She uploaded her first YouTube video in 2008, sent her first tweet in 2014 and her first Instagram post in 2019.

As for how the country looked when her reign began compared to now, we have swapped an island mired in smoke (the Great Smog of 1952 is thought to have killed up to 12,000 people) for one that needs to tackle invisible air pollution (with as many as 36,000 deaths a year now attributed to long-term exposure).

The Peak District was designated the UK's first national park just a year before "Lilibet" became Queen Elizabeth II; there are now 15 of them.

The mass production of plastic was still in its infancy in the early 1950s; now we are showered in the stuff (a problem so potently warned of by Sir David Attenborough, born 17 days after the Queen).

One thing that hasn't changed is how many of us live in towns and cities – the urban population has remained at 81 per cent for England and Wales, according to the censuses of 1951 and 2011.

The public was still getting used to the mass motoring age when the Queen was carried through London in the golden state coach on her way to be crowned.

The first zebra crossings were only a year old, less than a third of journeys were made by car, van or taxi in 1952, and Britain would have to wait until the end of the decade for its first motorway.

In all senses, things were moving more quickly in the skies. The de Havilland Comet became the world's first commercial jet airliner



The public was still getting used to the mass motoring age when the Queen was crowned

when it entered service two months after George VI's death. He and his 20th-century predecessors had already grown used to crossing borders in ways that were never imaginable when Elizabeth I ruled between 1558 and 1603, but royal tours were about to become easier and speedier.

"Some people have expressed the hope that my reign may mark a new Elizabethan age," said the Queen in her Christmas broadcast of 1953. "Frankly, I do not feel at all like my great Tudor forebear, who was blessed with neither husband or children, who ruled as a despot and was never able to leave her native shores."

The age of air travel meant the mother-of-four became the most well-travelled monarch in history. Still the head of state for 14 realms – in addition to the UK – by the time her reign came to an end, the Queen was believed to have visited more than 120 nations. And we too became more travelled, before the pandemic at least: in 2018, British people made 126.2 million international flights, more than any other nationality.

The British Empire had already begun disintegrating by the time she became its figurehead – most notably with the "jewel in the

Her reign begins Britain in 1952 vs now

1952

Prime minister Winston Churchill

Population 50.2 million

Life expectancy 66.7 years for men and 71.8 for women

Economy World's second biggest (behind US), with GDP of £24.7bn

Employment Men earned an average £9 a week, and women £5 – only a third of the workforce was female

Average house price £1.891

Entertainment Three BBC radio stations and one black-and-white television channel

Family There were 16 births per

1,000 population; 3.5 per cent of babies were born outside marriage; the most popular baby names were Susan (the name of the Queen's first corgi) and David.

Shopping The "basket" of goods used to measure inflation in the UK included canned fruit, ice cream, brown bread, Tupperware, camera film, TVs, cars, motorcycle insurance, NHS prescription charges and dance-hall and youth-club admission charges

Transport 2.5 million cars; 1.5 million outward and inbound trips by air

Health The NHS was less than four years old

2022

Prime Minister Liz Truss

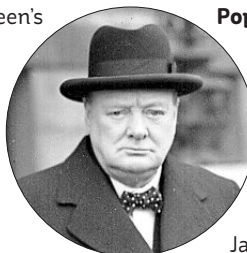
Population 68.6 million

Life expectancy 83.6 years for women and 79.9 years for men

Economy World's sixth biggest economy, behind the US, China, Japan, Germany and India. GDP is £2.2trn.

Employment Average weekly earnings are £611. The gender pay gap is about 7 per cent with 72.2 women are in employment and 78.9 per cent of men.

Average house price £286,000



Entertainment Digital terrestrial TV has up to 70 channels, with many more available on subscriptions.

Family Birth rate is 11.322 births per 1,000 population. In England and Wales, 51.3 per cent of births are outside marriage. The most popular baby names are Oliver and Olivia.

Shopping Additions in 2022 to the "basket" used to measure inflation include meat-free sausages, canned pulses, sports bras, pet collars and antibacterial surface wipes.

Transport 32.9 million cars (about 456,000 electric vehicles). 63 million outward and inbound trips by air.

Health The NHS costs £192bn per year.



The Queen during her Concorde flight home from Barbados after her Silver Jubilee tour of Canada and the West Indies in 1977. PA

crown" India granted independence in 1947. Britain's role in world affairs felt forever diminished by the humiliating Suez Crisis of 1956 and indelibly tarnished in the bloody aftermath to 2003's invasion of Iraq.

But the Queen's beloved Commonwealth has grown from eight countries in 1952 to 54 now, and the UK's continued relationship with its former colonies is a major reason why more than 300 different languages are now spoken in British schools.

By the 2011 Census, the population of England and Wales remained 86 per cent white, and anti-immigration sentiments were one reason behind the UK's vote for Brexit in 2016. But in that same year London elected Sadiq Khan as its first Muslim mayor – an unthinkable event all those years ago. Britain's diversity grows every year.

The change in social attitudes has been dizzying, symbolised by the history of the Royal Family itself. It was the abdication of the Queen's uncle, Edward VIII, in 1936, that thrust her father, the new George VI, into Buckingham Palace, and Princess Elizabeth up

to first in the line of succession. So scandalous was Edward's wish to marry an American divorcee that he was forced to quit the throne. In 1949, Princess Elizabeth told the Mothers' Union: "We can have no doubt that divorce and separation are responsible for some of the darkest evils in society today."

Divorce rates rocketed during the first half of her reign, however. There were fewer than 34,000 in 1952, and a peak of 165,000 in 1993 – the year after the Queen's "annus horribilis", in which three of her four children announced separations. In 2005, Charles married his former mistress, Camilla. Both were divorced but they were blessed by the Archbishop of Canterbury.

In 2018, grandson Harry married an American divorcee without a hint of outrage among the Queen's subjects. Meghan, of course, is also mixed-race. This was seen as further evidence of how much the nation had moved in race relations, exactly 50 years after Enoch Powell warned that a multiracial Britain would end like Rome, "the River Tiber foaming with much blood".

However, allegations of racism within the Royal household from the Duke and Duchess of Sussex in March 2021 showed how much more work was needed – as did the abuse suffered by black England footballers on social media after the team lost their European Championship final a few months later.

Meanwhile Britain's gay citizens would have to wait 15 years into the Queen's reign before homosexuality was decriminalised in 1967. The first royal same-sex wedding came in 2018, a year before Prince William said that one of his children coming out as gay would be "absolutely fine by me".

As the Queen lies in state in her lead-lined coffin, a nation will fondly recall a reign in which we were stewarded by the reassuring calm and dignity of "our late Sovereign Lady Queen Elizabeth the Second of Blessed and Glorious memory" (as she will be formally referred to in Charles's proclamation as King in St James's Palace).

As one historian said anonymously in 2017: "We were all told that the funeral of Churchill was the requiem for Britain as a great power."

"But actually it will really be over when she goes."

FAMILY

After assassination, home invasion, fire, failed kidnapping: she had seen it all

The Queen weathered every storm that came her family's way. By **Molly Blackall**

The Queen's 70-year reign may have been glorious, but it was punctuated by plenty of difficulties, including an assassination, an attempted kidnapping, and one family scandal after another.

One of the most dramatic events was in March 1974, when Princess Anne and her former husband Captain Mark Phillips were returning to Buckingham Palace along Pall Mall and their Rolls-Royce was forced to stop by another car blocking their path.

A man emerged and fired six shots in an attempted kidnap, injuring both the Princess's private detective and her chauffeur.

Worse came when the Queen's cousin, Lord Louis Mountbatten, was killed in August 1979 by an IRA bomb planted on a leisure boat he was using in Mullaghmore, County Sligo, Ireland.

There were fears for the Queen as six blank shots were fired from the crowd as she rode during the Trooping the Colour ceremony in 1981. Even more alarmingly for the monarch, in July 1982, Michael Fagan managed to evade palace guards and gain entry to the Queen's private chambers while she was in bed. Fagan spent about 10 minutes talking to her after he climbed over the palace walls.

A decade later, the Queen famously endured what she described as her "annus horribilis" in 1992, which unleashed a series of unpleasant events for her, including the separation of the Duke and Duchess of York; the divorce of Princess Anne and Captain Mark Phillips; and the publication of

Diana, Princess of Wales's book detailing the problems in her marriage to the Prince of Wales. If all that were not enough, fire broke out at her Windsor Castle home, destroying 115 rooms.

In 1996, the Prince and Princess of Wales divorced and, a year later, the Queen came under fire for her handling of Princess Diana's death. She was criticised for initially refusing to fly the Union flag at half-mast over Buckingham Palace, and for deciding not to return to London from her holiday in Balmoral.

In January 2020, a younger generation of royals presented new problems, as the Duke and Duchess of Sussex announced they would "step back as senior members of the Royal Family" and attempt to carve out a new, independent life between the UK and North America.

The Queen was reportedly left reeling from the news, with neither she nor the Prince of Wales thought to have been consulted prior to the announcement.

Grimmer news followed in the midst of the pandemic, when in April 2021 the Queen lost Prince Philip, her husband of more than 70 years and her "rock".

By then, her son Prince Andrew had become embroiled in the scandal that eventually forced the Queen to strip him of his royal titles.

Virginia Giuffrè accused the Duke of York of sexually assaulting her on three occasions when she was 17, after being trafficked by convicted paedophile Jeffrey Epstein and his former girlfriend Ghislaine Maxwell.

The Duke, who has always denied the claims, later paid a multimillion pound settlement to Ms Giuffrè.



The Queen with the Duke and Duchess of Sussex at the Queen's Young Leaders Awards Ceremony at Buckingham Palace in 2018 JOHN STILLWELL/PA



COMMENT

Why does this peaceful end to a working life hurt so much?

Facing a disconcerting new world is going to be hard. By **Anne McElvoy**

If it is so natural and expected, that a monarch at 96 should die peacefully, why does it hurt so much? I am surely not the only person who prides themselves on their pragmatism and ability to “turn around” a quick response to a breaking story, retreating fast from the sight of colleagues – and finding the tears flowing.

Already, the past tense is hard to write about a woman who has embodied the best of the United Kingdom for 70 years. Her extraordinary commitment to duty, even in the fatigue of age and ill health, led her to initiate a new prime minister at Balmoral on Tuesday. She worked to the end. And anyone who thinks that is easy, even with a supportive team and lifelong creature comforts, has not felt the toll of relentless expectation.

“Grief,” she told Americans in the wake of 9/11, “is the price we pay for love.” And that is what so many of us feel in the wake of the news. It does not mean that we have

no criticism of the monarchy, nor that we all agree on the claims of tradition versus modernisation of how that should proceed.

I once wrote a column suggesting that royal retirement was the best idea – and that it should not be confused with abdication. It earned a very shirty response from one of her closest aides at the time, along the lines of, “Write what you like, but it’s not going to

happen while she is around, because this is a job for life.” When “London Bridge” fell (code for the royal death) it happened at the end of her working week. I had been wrong: the “retirement” never happened.

In a world changed so utterly since she acceded to the throne in the aftermath of the Second World War, the Queen offered the most elusive quality – continuity and a fixed point or reference.

Within minutes of the news, my phone rang with condolences from around the world. Touchingly, even hardened news producers from



Grace and humour: The Queen appeared in a James Bond spoof with 007 actor Daniel Craig for the 2012 Olympic Games in London. LOC/COG/AFPI/GETTY

Germany and Poland to Taiwan and the US, asking for reaction to the story often foregrounded the bid with empathy for how Britain – and I – was feeling. A bit wobbly, if truth be told.

This is not the here-today-gone-tomorrow sentiment we have got used to indulging or scorning in a social media-driven age.

There is something truer and more steadfast behind the loyalty to the Queen and the gap her parting leaves in us. She wore her role with grace and good humour – how many other world leaders would agree

to a complex 2012 Olympics spoof alongside Daniel Craig as James Bond; and her final 70th jubilee, at which she entertained Paddington Bear to tea at the Palace?

The mix of discretion, patience and humour (as well as the sheer dedication to one job for the whole of her life), earned her the biggest plaudit – she was, quite simply, the most famous person in recent history who was not a dictator.

If you lived abroad, as I did, behind the iron curtain in the Cold War and covering the turmoil of eastern Europe after, or travelled

afterwards in the emerging economies of Asia or Latin America, the question most often asked of a Brit was “Have you met the Queen?”

To which the answer was twice, very briefly and it went as you might imagine – she asked “what I was busy with?” which was an opener to those who had busy professions, none at all or were far too privileged to define themselves in terms of a job.

Her last engagement was the announcement of a new British prime minister – and although we could glimpse through a glass darkly when she had reservations about an individual (or a direction of political development), she was deeply convinced of the need to retain the borderline between monarchy and democratic politics, however rowdy or disruptive.

She leaves at a time when the Royal Family’s internal fissures in the rift of Prince Harry and his brother and father need to settle, if not heal. But she also acceded to the throne accidentally – when Edward VIII abdicated to marry Wallis Simpson (*inset*). Even if he had remained king, he had no heirs – so she would have inherited the throne anyway. It was as if her reign was meant to be – and it felt like that for so long that anything different feels like a disconcerting new world.

Suddenly last night, I thought of all the theatre curtains bearing the heraldic swirls of “EIIR” which would need to be replaced. Another pang hit home – and we will feel many such moments in the next days, weeks and years.

After so long in the waiting room of majesty, King Charles III will succeed her. It still feels hard to say “Long live the King”. Her greatest wish for her heir is that it should feel as natural as saying, “God Save the Queen”. She was the heart of the nation. That’s why it feels as it does today.

Anne McElvoy is executive editor at ‘The Economist’ and presents ‘The Economist Asks’ podcast

POLITICS

She was the nation’s anchoring force – right to the end

Two days before she died, the Queen met her 15th Prime Minister.

By **Jane Merrick**

After 70 years of service to her country, it was the last public duty she fulfilled as monarch – and her most important.

On Tuesday, just two days before her death, she oversaw the transition of power from one prime minister to the next, her 14th to her 15th.

Given the turmoil of the past few years, with four prime ministers since 2016, it had become something of a more regular routine, even for a Queen who had previously shaken hands with 14 inhabitants

of Downing Street. But while the event itself was low-key, the momentousness of that occasion is now clear.

She made it look as if it was no trouble at all, but it must have taken an extraordinary effort.

The surroundings were homely, the monarch dressed in a grey cardigan and tartan pleated skirt in front of an early autumn fire, but in ensuring this job was completed, with a smile and minimal fuss despite her obvious frailty, the stability and continuity of the UK remained intact.

At the age of 96 and using the aid of a walking stick, she had earlier accepted Boris Johnson’s resignation – in a meeting away from the cameras – in her private drawing room at Balmoral, beneath a painting of Queen Victoria.

A short time later, the monarch greeted her 15th and last prime

minister, Liz Truss, in the same room.

It will never be known exactly what the pair discussed. The only



The Queen greeted her 15th and last prime minister, Liz Truss, at Balmoral on Tuesday. REUTERS

published evidence is of a series of photographs of the new Prime Minister shaking the Queen’s hand, and reports that she had made a joke about the dark skies over her Scottish castle.

But it can be guessed that the monarch will have given advice to Ms Truss, as she had done over seven decades to her prime ministers.

The Prime Minister’s husband, Hugh O’Leary, arrived towards the end of the meeting and the Queen, who had a keen interest in the young, is likely to have asked the couple about their teenage daughters. She was in good humour, sources said.

What we will never know is what would have happened if the Queen had died before that transition of power was made.

Would Mr Johnson have had to stay on for a few more weeks,

while the final arrangements were made for her state funeral, with a different Conservative leader-elect waiting in the wings, triggering more uncertainty about the Government’s plans on the cost of living?

Would it have been too precarious to have both government and state in transition, when the country was already going through such turbulence?

At so many points over her 70-year reign, during wars, recessions, terrorist attacks and, most recently, the Covid pandemic, the Queen has been a rock of stability for the nation.

And in confirming Ms Truss as Prime Minister, the Queen, days from death, was once again the nation’s anchoring force.

In the end, she lived long enough to do her duty. No protocols were breached. Her job was done.



The Prince of Wales shares a lighter moment with the Queen in the gardens of the Palace of Holyroodhouse, Edinburgh, in June this year JANE BARLOW/WPA

FAMILY

‘I still find it hard to believe that I have my own baby!’

Princess Elizabeth was thrilled when Charles was born and took separation hard. By **Ingrid Seward**

As soon as she was married, Princess Elizabeth was impatient to start a family. Her own upbringing had been defined by Edward VIII's abdication, confined by governesses and tutors, and living at Windsor Castle during the Second World War. Her firstborn son and heir, Prince Charles, was the culmination of everything she wanted when he was born by caesarean section in Buckingham Palace in 1948. It was almost a year after her wedding, she was in love and she had a baby.

Pinned up outside the Home Office in Whitehall and on the door of Mansion House in the City were notices dated 14 November 1948, which read: “Her Royal Highness the Princess Elizabeth, Duchess of Edinburgh, was safely delivered of a Prince at 9.14 o'clock this evening. Her Royal Highness and the infant Prince are both well.”

The Princess wrote to her former music teacher, Mabel Lander telling her: “The baby is very sweet and we are enormously proud of him. I still find it difficult to believe I have a baby of my own!”

Her bliss was not to last for as long as she had hoped. The Princess found herself increasingly busy, having to fulfil engagements for her

father because of his ill health and little Charles was left in the care of nannies. This was perfectly normal in the early 1950s and children from privileged families saw their parents only in the morning and evening. Charles was doted on by royal staff and remembered as an exceptionally sweet-natured little boy. He was shy, but without the sense of the imperiousness which manifested itself in his sister Princess Anne.

He was sweet and biddable and even at a young age showed a reluctance to put anyone to unnecessary trouble. Like his mother he was conscientious and aware of other people's feelings although not particularly equipped to deal with them.

When Prince Charles was sent to boarding school for the first time the Queen, as she was by then, was full of doubt at sending her nervous eight-year-old son away. One of the hardest parts of his education had been to resist the temptation to accept special privileges for Charles, which would have obstructed her desire for him to grow up in as ordinary an atmosphere as possible.

She made a point of not visiting his prep school, Cheam, and subsequently Gordonstoun any

more frequently than other parents, but it never stopped her worrying about him.

Although mother and son had different upbringings, tastes and talents, both shared many traits, which in adulthood could lead to clashes. Like her son, whose refrain was ‘anything for a quiet life’, the Queen was the peacemaker in family disputes, but like her mother, she was inclined to ignore a situation she considered too difficult.

The Queen's diffidence was one of the reasons for her and Charles's occasional disagreements. When



The Queen, with Prince Charles just before his first birthday, in 1949 GETTY

Lady Diana Spencer came on the scene, the Queen delightedly described her as “one of us” but soon likened her to a “nervy racehorse” and instructed staff to treat her with kid gloves.

When the marriage ran into difficulties, she was reluctant to interfere and Prince Philip urged his wife to stop “sitting on the fence”.

During the 90s the Queen's relationship with her son - although based on deep trust - treached a low point. She considered Charles extravagant while he thought her unfeeling. On occasion he would shout down the telephone saying he could no longer cope with Diana's temperamental outbursts and unreasonable demands.

After the death of Diana and Charles's remarriage to Camilla Parker Bowles, mother and son grew closer again. The Queen had always liked Camilla and felt she was the steadying influence he needed. When the Duke of Edinburgh died aged 99 in April 2021 one of his final wishes was that Charles would become head of the family and take care of the Queen.

In her old age the Queen looked to Charles to take over the reins of the monarchy and guide her sometimes troubled family. The closeness of their bond survived ups and downs over the years and he remained one of the few people she could trust deeply and completely until the end of her life.

OPINION

Monarch meant the world to immigrant families

Zubeida Malik



Christmas Day will never be the same again: there will be no Queen's speech. In our house, no matter what happened or how busy my mother was, she would always stop and listen to it. She would tell us to turn off whatever we were watching, as she wanted to watch the Queen.

Even though English wasn't her first language she would sit there gripped. My mother would keenly observe the pictures and the ornaments in the background and what the Queen was wearing. As a first generation British Pakistani, my mother wore salwar kameez, but she would sigh in admiration at how stylish the Queen looked.

Watching the speech made her feel British, and part of Britain. There was a deep and fond connection between the Queen and the first generation of immigrants who came here in the 1960s and 70s. Many of them were born when there was still the empire and Britain was seen as centre of it all. This was a generation that was taught all about the monarchy and British history in India, Africa and the Caribbean.

The Queen's commitment, love and passion for the Commonwealth was clear. She always looked so happy and at ease on her visits to member countries. The Queen visited Pakistan a number of times but her trip there in 1961 when it was still a young country is one that many Pakistanis recall. It was viewed by that generation as a sign of support that Pakistan had a right to exist when there were those who still questioned its creation.

For my parents, who were from Lahore, it was the Queen's trip to that city that they would tell stories of. She went to Badshahi Mosque and Shalimar Gardens - places that Lahoris are proud of - and the Queen laid a wreath at the tomb of the poet and philosopher Allama Iqbal. The streets were packed and the papers were full of pictures. My mother said it was like a fairy tale.

When my parents made their home in Britain, they lived in Slough and would often walk to Windsor Castle. My mother said she lived in hope of seeing the Queen at the window or walking in her gardens.

They did see the Changing of the Guard at Buckingham Palace a number of times, but it's a real testament to the Queen and her skill as a monarch that she made an ordinary woman from Lahore who made her home and family in England feel British.



MONARCHY

The private Elizabeth

Throughout her 70-year reign, the Queen rarely allowed the regal mask to slip. By **Cahal Milmo**

When the then Princess Elizabeth made it known to her parents in 1946 that she wished

to marry the dashing young Royal Navy officer who would become her husband of 73 years, her intentions were far from being the cause of celebration in the House of Windsor.

Britain had barely emerged from the tumult and devastation of the Second World War and while the future Queen's intended, Prince Philip, had served with distinction in combat, the fact that he had close familial links with Germany was the source of a significant raising of royal eyebrows, not least by his future mother-in-law.

Queen Elizabeth, later the Queen Mother, had made no secret of her dislike of Germans. She had lost a brother in the First World War and let it be known that she could see little advantage for the Royal Family in allowing her eldest daughter and the future monarch to marry a prince whose sisters had all married German aristocrats, who in turn had fought for Hitler.

For a Windsor dynasty anxious to distance itself from its own Teutonic links, the future Duke of Edinburgh's family name – Schleswig-Holstein-Sonderburg-Glücksburg – was a hindrance both symbolic and practical in nature.

The Queen Mother is widely held to have routinely referred to Philip as “the Hun”, even within his earshot. It was therefore perhaps hardly surprising that the future Duke of Edinburgh accepted the advice of his shrewdly manipulative uncle, Lord Mountbatten, to take his surname as his family moniker.

The problem for the Queen Mother was that, for all her dynastic *realpolitik*, she was fighting at least two forces of her nature – her daughter, and love.

As the Dowager Lady Hardinge of Penshurst, a friend of the Queen Mother, later put it: “Queen Elizabeth opposed the marriage. She distrusted the Mountbattens, and felt that her daughter ought to marry a British duke. She lobbied against it and said to me at the time, ‘the trouble is that Philip is so impossibly attractive, and Lilibet [the future Queen] just cannot see beyond that’.”

Quite which lengths the Princess Elizabeth and her intended had to

go to secure the eventual blessing of her mother and King George VI will remain concealed, along with other royal secrets, in the archives of Windsor Castle.

But it seems reasonable to suppose that the young would-be bride, who was just 21 when she married in 1947, must have shown a certain determination to complete her lengthy journey to the altar at Westminster Abbey.

On his wedding day, the Duke is said to have steeled himself with a mid-morning gin and tonic before turning to ask a confidant: “Am I being very brave or very foolish?”

According to those who knew both bride and groom, Philip was expressing concerns about how he would fit into “The Firm” – rather than his relationship with the future Queen.

Patricia Mountbatten, Philip's first cousin, once explained: “He had no doubts at all about Lilibet as a future wife. He adored her. He loved her deeply – you could tell. It was definitely a love match.”

The feeling was by all accounts

The job description she wrote for herself was to be both ubiquitous and inscrutable – not once did she give an interview

Tea for two Unlikely pals

The life of the Queen was honoured by a fellow national treasure who struck up an unlikely friendship with the monarch in the last year of her life – Paddington Bear.

The lovable bear, created by the late British author Michael Bond, tweeted last night: “Thank you Ma'am, for everything.”

The pair delighted the public with a sketch to mark her Platinum Jubilee in June. The duo stole the show at June's Platinum Party at the Palace concert when a video of them having afternoon tea at Buckingham Palace and tapping out “We Will Rock You” by the band Queen on their teacups aired to the nation.

During two-and-a-half-minute film, the Queen revealed she kept her a stash of marmalade sandwiches in her trademark black Launer handbag.

profoundly shared, enduring from the freedom of the early days of their marriage, through to the Duke of Edinburgh's death in April 2021.

But the episode of the Queen's determination to marry her beau serves above all as a rare insight into the private mind of a monarch whose very inscrutability became her trademark.

Hers was a face recognised, scrutinised and gazed upon probably by more people than any other in human history. For seven decades, the countenance of Elizabeth II stared out from countless pictures, broadcasts, portraits, banknotes, coins and postage stamps as sovereign and symbol of the British monarchy.

Some 1.5 million people alone were in her presence at hundreds of Buckingham Palace garden parties. As the Queen herself one put it: “I have to be seen to be believed.”

And yet, knowing what was going on behind the regal visage – the thoughts, opinions and emotions of a monarch, wife, mother and private citizen – was essentially and purposely unknowable.

It was a large part of the job description she wrote for herself to be both ubiquitous and inscrutable.

Not once during her reign did the Queen give a formal interview.

Of the few times that the cameras were allowed behind the scenes, the most revelatory documentary (*The Royal Family* made in 1969 for the BBC) was rapidly withdrawn and locked up along with 43 hours of raw footage never to be seen again.

Quite what the Queen liked to read or view, what she thought on issues from the Falklands to

vegetarianism, let alone the order in which she ranked her prime ministers, remained state secrets every bit as secure as the vaults of the Bank of England.

But even for Elizabeth II, seven decades of hiding in plain sight could not be carried off without letting slip some clues as to her true character. What we know of the Queen's personality is to be found in a near century of snippets, anecdotes and insights about what made the longest-reigning monarch in British history tick.

The resulting collage is



composed of trivia – her dislikes ranged from tardiness and extravagance to cockles – through to the more profound insights offered by the traumas of the break-up of her heir's marriage and the (very) few moments when her private views have slipped into the public domain.

ROYAL TRIFLES

Some of the fripperies of her personality were recorded in lists of royal trifles – she kept her cereal in Tupperware boxes, was called “Sausage” by her husband and had a plastic duck in her bath.

But what was the woman who recognised that her purpose in life was to be seen really like?

From the dozens of biographies and millions of words written about her, several recurrent traits can be discerned about the monarch who was sat down at the age of 10 after her uncle's abdication and told she would one day be Queen.

Ben Pimlott, the late royal historian and one of the monarch's most perceptive biographers, argued it was wrong to describe Elizabeth II as a solitary figure but that her role and its requirement of permanent regality shaped every relationship she formed.

He said: “To talk of her as lonely was in a way absurd. Nobody was

more constantly surrounded by people, or had a more devoted circle. Yet there was always a sense of being an ethnic minority of one: A Sovereign, not a subject, universally known, automatically of interest, requiring respect.

“It did not prevent her relating to people, but it gave her friendships and attachments a lopsided quality... There was a vicious circle: Nobody could treat her just like anybody else because to have done so would have been presumptuous and rude.”

The result was not a monarch with two personalities, one public and the other private, but an individual who, chameleon-like, showed different sides of her character according to her surroundings and the moment.

Perhaps inevitably, the more interesting side was that shown when with her family or trusted conclave of advisers.

A DRY WIT

Apart from an abiding interest in matters equestrian, the single trait most often mentioned by those who knew the Queen is her dry wit.

When a former president of the Poetry Society sat beside her at an official dinner steered the conversation towards Rudyard Kipling, she quipped: “Ah, yes,



Princess Elizabeth and her fiancé, Philip Mountbatten, at Buckingham Palace, after their engagement was announced on 10 July 1947. HULTON ARCHIVE/GETTY

Kipling, exceedingly good poet.”

Discussing her relationship with Cherie Blair, who earned tabloid ire after supposedly refusing to curtsy for the monarch after her husband's election victory in 1997, the Queen reputedly told friends: “I can almost feel Mrs Blair's knees stiffening when I come in.”

Gatherings of the Windsors were also said to be occasionally given levity by the Queen's uncannily accurate impressions of Neil Kinnock and Margaret Thatcher.

There were also public displays of that caustic humour. When asked by former Northern Ireland deputy first minister and one-time IRA commander Martin McGuinness how she was keeping in 2016, the Queen replied: “Well, I'm still alive.”

But the ability to crack a regal gag did not translate effortlessly into a ready sense of empathy, or perhaps even warmth, in her domestic life.

It was said that the only thing which was guaranteed to earn a show of royal displeasure was to tread on a corgi's tail and the carapace of aloofness extended in particular to matters of the heart.

Her childhood friend, Sonia Berry, once observed: “She's always calm. She might get annoyed about something but, as a rule, she stays on an even keel. I've never seen her

lose her temper.”

Nor, it would seem, indulge in spontaneous displays of affection.

After returning from a six-month tour of the Commonwealth and her dominions in 1953, she greeted the young Prince Charles with nothing more than a pat on the back.

Princess Diana recounted how she had approached the Queen for counsel as her marriage dissolved in the early 1990s.

She said: “I went to the top lady. And I was sobbing and I said, ‘What do I do? I'm coming to you’. And she said, ‘I don't know what you should do. Charles is hopeless’. And that was it. That was help! So I didn't go back to her again.”

Courtiers have even suggested that the outcomes of three of her children's four marriages may have been linked to their upbringing.

This was no doubt due to her own upbringing in a different age. Just as she grew into the monarchy, however, she also grew into her role as matriarch.

STURDILY ENIGMATIC

It was widely held that after the death of her mother in 2002, the Queen finally became at ease with both herself and her position.

Certainly, her status as “Granny” to her grandchildren, as opposed to the formal address of “Your

Majesty” used by her own offspring, was a change noticed with approval by those nearest to her.

Nonetheless, the sturdily enigmatic side of Elizabeth II – what the royal biographer Robert Lacey described as her preference to “keep the world at arm's length” – never quite surrendered its dominance of the Queen's outward facing persona.

Here, after all, was a monarch who had a sheet of black blotting paper placed on her desk every day to ensure that her thoughts on matters of state and anything else could not be pilfered.

The result was that the Queen came to encapsulate perhaps the key change of her reign – the fact that the United Kingdom no longer had just a sovereign but also a “Head of Nation”.

What the Victorian economist and constitutional essayist Walter Bagehot referred to as the “mystical reverence” of the monarchy was repackaged under Elizabeth II to make her a fount of soft-power.

The Buckingham Palace website includes a description of the role of Head of Nation as “providing a focus for national identity, unity and pride; giving a sense of stability and continuity; recognising success, achievement and excellence; and supporting service to others”.

It is a way of recalibrating the role of the monarch that perfectly suited both the Queen and the institution she embodied.

George Orwell, not known for his monarchist leanings, concluded that “modern people can't get along without drums, flags and loyalty parades” and therefore “it is better that they should tie their leader worship on to some figure who has no real power”.

In reality, Elizabeth II simply wielded her power more subtly, often through glimpses of frailty or candour in public, and with an occasional edict in private.

While she was careful to defer to her husband in the running of the royal household, she ruled with a rod of steel when it came to more constitutional affairs.

For all Buckingham Palace's insistence that the monarch never dabbled in the business of politics, she was not above occasionally making known her own views from time to time.

Her comment to a well-wisher outside church in Balmoral prior to the Scottish independence referendum in 2014 that she hoped voters would “think very carefully about the future” was widely interpreted as a hint at the Queen's support for the Union.

THE MASK SLIPS

Beneath the surface, there could also very occasionally lurk a feisty temper.

In 1954, an Australian film crew sent to record the then newly crowned monarch looking at some koalas watched open-mouthed as the Duke of Edinburgh emerged swiftly from the royal lodgings, pursued by a salvo of threats, tennis shoes and sporting equipment launched by the Queen.

The documentary makers obligingly exposed the resulting footage and handed it to the young monarch's press secretary.

The Queen, restored to her customary serenity, then emerged and told the crew: “I'm sorry for that little interlude but, as you know, it happens in every marriage. Now, what would you like me to do?”

Such examples of the slipping of the mask were both vanishingly rare and, thereby, disproportionately heartening because of the proof they offered that Elizabeth II, like everybody else, lost her temper and could laugh at a joke.

Her riding instructor, Horace Smith, let slip that as a 12-year-old, Princess Elizabeth told him that were it not for the obligations placed upon her by her uncle's abdication two years earlier “I would like to be a lady living in the country with lots of horses and dogs”.

When then prime minister Tony Blair toasted the Queen at a banquet to mark her 80th birthday in 2006, he said: “Deference may be inherited but affection is earned and the affection this country feels for you is real.”

He might have equally added that while this affection was doubtless not consciously sought, it was also the fruit of a lifetime of unstinting duty and proof of her understanding of perhaps the key principle of monarchy.

It bears repetition: “I have to be seen to be believed.”

In her own words Queen Elizabeth II

ON CHARACTER

“Grief is the price we pay for love.” Statement following the attacks in the US on September 11, 2001

“It has always been easy to hate and destroy. To build and to cherish is much more difficult.”

Christmas Day broadcast in 1957

“It is often the small steps, not the giant leaps, that bring about the most lasting change.”

Christmas Day broadcast in 2019

“Let us not take ourselves too seriously. None of us has a monopoly on wisdom.”

Christmas Day broadcast in 1991

“When life seems hard, the courageous do not lie down and accept defeat; instead, they are all the more determined to struggle for a better future.”

Christmas broadcast in 2008

ON THE SECOND WORLD WAR

“In remembering the appalling suffering of war on both sides, we recognise how precious is the peace we have built in Europe since 1945.” Speech at a German banquet hosted by then-president Horst Köhler in 2004

“The wartime generation – my generation – is resilient.” Speech for D-Day's 75th anniversary in 2019

“When peace comes, remember it will be for us, the children of today, to make the world of tomorrow a better and happier place.” Speech during a wartime radio broadcast in 1940

ON THE UNITED KINGDOM

“Family does not necessarily mean blood relatives, but often a description of a community, organisation or nation.”

Christmas Day broadcast in 2011

“I have in sincerity pledged myself to your service, as so many of you are pledged to mine.” – Coronation ceremony speech in 1952

“The upward course of a nation's history is due in the long run to the soundness of heart of its average men and women.”

Christmas Day broadcast in 1954

ON THE ROYAL FAMILY

“Like all the best families, we have our share of eccentricities, of impetuous and wayward youngsters and of family disagreements.” – Statement appearing in the Daily Mail in 1989

“My husband has quite simply been my strength and stay all these years, and I owe him a debt greater than he would ever claim.” Statement on her golden wedding anniversary, 1997

“The importance of family has, of course, come home to Prince Philip and me personally this year with the marriages of two of our grandchildren, each in their own way a celebration of the God-given love that binds a family together.” – Christmas Day broadcast in 2011



The Queen at leisure



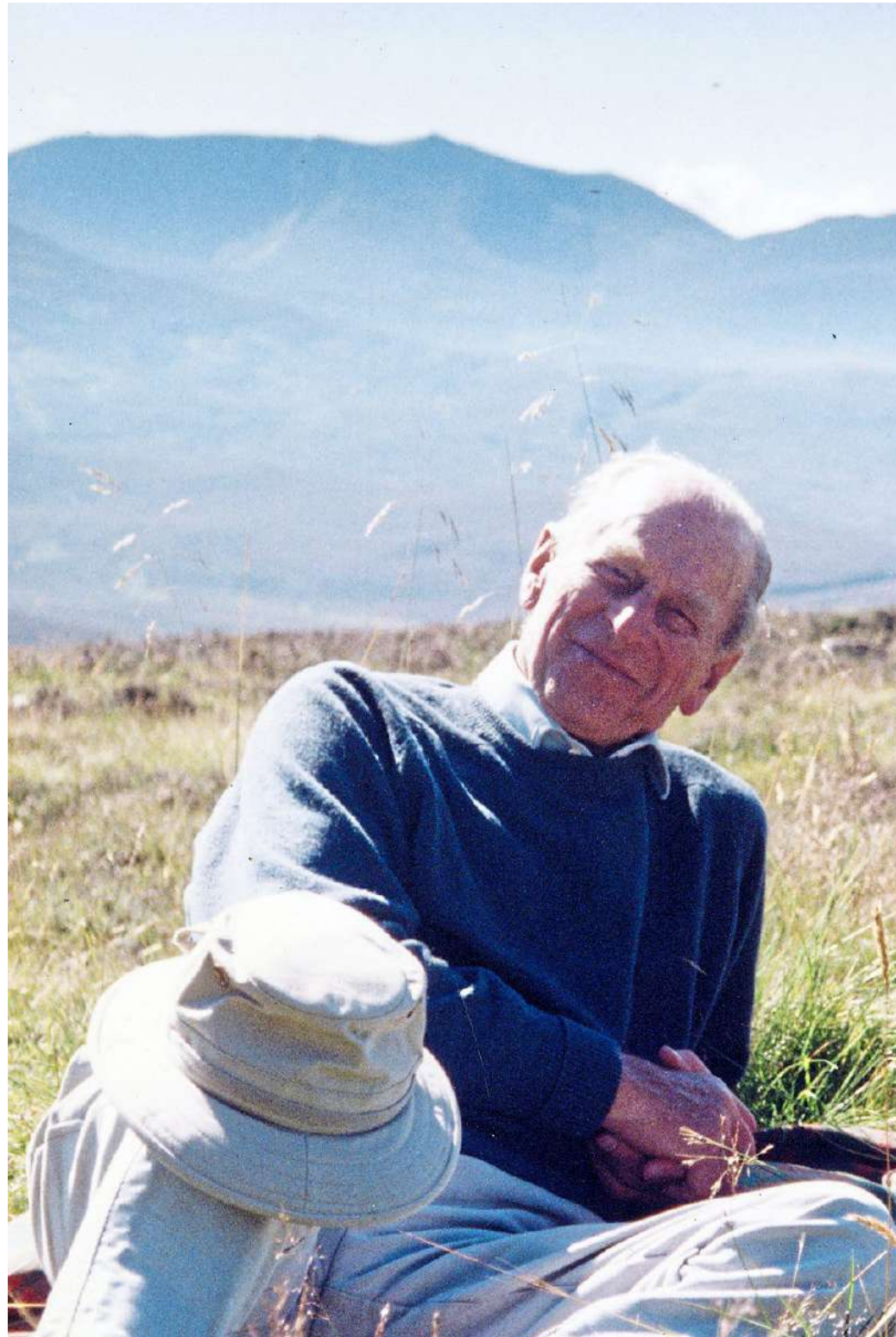
A life caught on camera

Queen Elizabeth II and Prince Philip aboard the SS *Gothic*. The royal couple were in the South Pacific en route to Fiji during the coronation world tour in 1953. HULTON ARCHIVE/GETTY



Two legs good, four legs better

The Queen's love of horses prevailed throughout her life. Here, she rides Balmoral Fern, a 14-year-old fell pony, at Windsor Home Park in May 2020. STEVE PARSONS/GETTY



At ease on the Coyles of Muick

Queen Elizabeth II and the Duke of Edinburgh relax atop the Coyles of Muick, Aberdeenshire. The image was released by Buckingham Palace on the eve of Prince Philip's funeral in April 2021. THE COUNTESS OF WESSEX

Studying form

A keen equestrian, the Queen studies the card while at the Havelock races during the 1954 royal tour of Ceylon. GETTY





Best friends
The young Princess with a Pembroke Welsh corgi in 1936. LISA SHERIDAN/GETTY



Animal magic
The Queen, with Lady Sarah Armstrong-Jones, and one of her many dogs GETTY



Passion for horses
The Queen takes the lead as she rides with Princess Margaret and the Duke of Kent at Ascot Racecourse, in June 1968. GETTY

Royally good fun
A 21-year-old Princess Elizabeth plays tag with midshipmen on board the HMS Vanguard in 1947. BETTMAN ARCHIVE





PEOPLE

‘She had that knack of making you feel at ease’

Ordinary people tell of meeting the monarch. By **Kasia Delgado**

Of the several times Peter Francis met the Queen, there is one occasion that made a particular impact on him. Francis works at the Commonwealth War Graves Commission, the organisation which honours the men and women in the Commonwealth Nations who died in the two world wars.

The Queen had a long association with the organisation and some of her first official duties as Queen included the unveiling of their Second World War memorials. “She had that wonderful knack of putting you at ease and before long you might be chatting away,” Francis remembers.

During one November remembrance event at Canada House in London, a group of young children had each prepared a poem and one by one they read them aloud to the audience. “When all

was apparently done,” Francis tells **i**, “the High Commissioner stood to speak and give a formal address but one lad hadn’t read his poem yet.

“He remained standing at the front of the room looking rather forlorn when Her Majesty ever so politely interrupted the High Commissioner and said gently but firmly that the young man had something to say.

“The lad, now looking about 10ft tall, read his poem, turned to the Queen and gave the most elaborate bow before returning to his seat. You can imagine the state the rest of us were in!”

Another distinct memory Francis has of the Queen is from a Commonwealth event at the Palace. “A colleague and I were arranged at either end of a horseshoe shaped group of people to be introduced to her,” says Francis. “The Queen began at the opposite end with my colleague, asking each in turn

who they were and what they did until she got to me. When I mentioned that I also worked for the Commonwealth War Graves Commission she exclaimed that we had her surrounded (much giggling) and then promptly told the remainder of the audience what a wonderful organisation we were.”

Glen Pearson met the Queen in



Siobhan Lewis presents the Queen with flowers in South Wales in 2021

1959, when he was nine years old, and it is something he says he’s always remembered vividly. He had spent his early childhood in Scotland, but he and his family now live in Calgary, Alberta. “When we learnt that Queen Elizabeth and Prince Philip were coming for the Calgary stampede, excitement was everywhere,” says Pearson.

“I recall the sudden panic spreading among the organisers as they realised that the bunting put out as official decorations for the stop had been placed upside down.

“It was blue, white and red from the top-down instead of the opposite. They corrected the oversight just as the train pulled to a stop. To my parents and grandparents, they represented stability in changing and troubled times and I came to view them the same way. When the Queen came down the short step from the train and proceeded to the line of people,

she walked immediately to where I stood with my parents and shook our hands. She commented on the colour of my eyes and showed curiosity at my heavy Scottish brogue. I remember looking up at my mother and seeing the tears flooding down her cheeks.”

When the Queen came to south Wales in 2021 as part of the Diamond Jubilee tour, Siobhan Lewis was hoping to catch a glimpse but was in fact asked to present flowers to her in Ebbw Vale. “I loved it because despite the Welsh rain, we were both smiling,” says Siobhan. “The Queen instantly made me feel warmly embraced, and at ease by her smile and acceptance of the flowers.”

Duncan Craig was awarded an OBE by the Queen in 2020 for founding the male rape charity Survivors Manchester. “When I spoke to the Queen she was just so lovely and warm,” he says. “She said: ‘I believe that you’re a survivor’ and we talked about that a while, and then she asked me if I felt like things have changed for the better in the last few years.”

“It was really mind-blowing for a boy from east Manchester. I’d met her at a garden party a few years before and remember feeling she was like my grandma. I noticed at the time that she had a little bruise on her arm, and I thought, I wonder if she’s fallen over, like any older



Clockwise from main, The Queen during her tour of Australasia in 1981; meeting children at Hackness Church of England Primary School in North Yorkshire in 2010; welcomed by children in Anguilla Cay, Bahamas, during her tour of the Caribbean in 1994. MIKE MALONEY/MIRRORPIX/GETTY; PA; AFP

person might. I think until I'd met her she seemed quite distant, like a celebrity, but then close up she was this lovely grandma."

Jenni Cameron, from Arbroath in Angus, waited in 2017 for four hours to see the Queen with her 12-year-old and 14-year-old children. "We were at the front of the barriers, and I wanted to take my kids as it may be their only chance to see the Queen in their lifetime."

"She walked along a meet-and-greet with officials then came to the crowds awaiting her, and I remember thinking how pristinely beautiful she was in a teal outfit."

The Queen instantly made me feel warmly embraced by her smile and acceptance of flowers

"She came up to my youngest daughter and wished her a good afternoon. My daughter is quite cheeky and went Hiya! loudly at her, and the Queen smiled and told us to enjoy our day. It was a great day and one I will always remember."

In 1977, a six-year-old Lara Chinn lived in the London suburb of Hendon and there had been much excitement because she had been told that the Queen would be passing through. "I couldn't tell you where she was going, she wasn't stopping, but she was definitely

going to be passing through," says Lara.

"On the morning of the big day my 11-year-old brother and I took our home-made Union Jack flags and made our way to the road that she was supposed to be driven down. By the time we arrived the crowds had already gathered."

"There was no way we could get close to the edge of the pavement and we stood four or five people back hoping to get a glimpse as the royal cars glided by. There were cheers and shouts and flags but we couldn't see the Queen, we couldn't see past people's heads in the crowd. My brother tried to comfort me but I was inconsolable."

"Even just a glimpse would have been OK, but I had seen nothing. We spent the rest of the day out, we went to the park and played in the playground until it started to get dark and it was time to head home."

"We were walking home along a quiet road, just the two of us, when suddenly a fleet of black cars with flags waving from their bonnets slowly made their way past us."

"It's her," my brother shouted, "they are on their way back!" I jumped, and screamed and shouted and waved my flag as furiously as I could and the Queen, sitting in the back of her vehicle, turned her head and looked right at me. She smiled and she waved, in her own special way, just for me."

MONEY

Coins and notes will get royal makeover, but not straight away

Bank of England contemplates replacing banknotes in circulation worth £80bn. By **Elizabeth Anderson**

Queen Elizabeth II appears on 38 circulating banknotes, representing many Commonwealth countries as well as being the figurehead of coins and notes in the UK. So what happens now?

In the UK, five different portraits of the Queen by four different designers have appeared on banknotes. The latest polymer notes, which were introduced from September 2016, use the portrait of the Queen that was drawn by artist Roger Withington and has appeared on banknotes since 1990.

De La Rue, which prints banknotes for the UK and many other countries, says it is up to the Bank of England to decide on any change in design. New banknotes can be put into circulation in less than two years and are often designed in advance (although details on this are strictly confidential).

Peter Symes, an Australia-based expert in paper money, suspects that plans have long been in place by the Bank of England to replace the Queen's portrait on notes. "I expect there will be an immediate measure shortly after the new king ascends the throne. It might even be a commemorative banknote of a specific denomination that has a different design to the current notes in circulation," he says.

However, he adds that it will take some time for coins and notes in circulation to be phased out. The Bank of England may choose to transition naturally, replacing used notes with newly designed notes as they wear out. Or the Bank may simultaneously issue both banknote designs while old stock is used up.

A Bank of England spokesman said that there were a "huge number" of banknotes in

circulation, worth about £80bn, so any change would take a long time. "As you can imagine, we have plans for a number of situations where we may need to transition to new notes, and I'm afraid we cannot comment on individual cases," he added.

It is hard to draw historical comparisons as this is the first time the UK has had to adapt its currency after the death of a monarch. While kings and queens have been depicted on coins since Anglo-Saxon times, images of reigning monarchs were not used on banknotes until 1960. Before then, notes were decorated with Britannia, the Bank of England's emblem since its foundation in 1694.

Eight years into her reign, the Queen made her first appearance on a British banknote, when the Bank of England issued a new £1 note. It was followed by a 10-shilling note in 1961.

Other countries in the Commonwealth have used images of her on their currency for decades. The Queen first appeared as a young child on Canadian \$20 notes in 1935, and she now appears on the coinage of at least 35 different countries. So it's not just Britain that will have to change the face of its currency, and countries may well have the new and old notes circulating for some time.

When it comes to coins, the portrait of every king and queen from Alfred the Great to Queen Elizabeth II has been struck by the Royal Mint. Images of reigning kings and queens have appeared on coins since the eighth century and were introduced by King Alfred. For many centuries, the image on coins was the only likeness of the monarch people were likely to see.

There have been five representations of Queen Elizabeth II on UK coins during her reign.

The fifth portrait was introduced in 2015, and is by Royal Mint designer Jody Clark. It shows the Queen wearing the diamond diadem, the headpiece that she wore for her coronation in June 1953 and which she also wore for the State Opening of Parliament.

From the time of Charles II in the 1600s, monarchs have typically faced the opposite direction to their immediate predecessor. Queen Elizabeth II faces the right, so the next monarch should face the left if the tradition continues.

Once the new money enters circulation, coins and notes featuring the Queen may eventually no longer be accepted in shops. However, high street banks generally accept demonetised coins from their customers even decades after money goes out of circulation. These coins are returned to the Royal Mint and melted down.

There will be complications for vending machines and cash dispensers, and it will take time for these to accept and dispense the new coins and notes.

Stamps will also need updating although this is likely to be a gradual process. Modern stamps featuring the Queen's portrait might be kept for nostalgic reasons by people, although they are not likely to be worth anything in the long run.

BT, which manages telephone boxes, says that there is unlikely to be any change as the UK's phone boxes do not carry royal insignia.

As for postboxes, Royal Mail says that it has never retrofitted or changed boxes. Existing boxes are not replaced until necessary, so this means that most postboxes will continue to carry the cypher "EIIR" as it is only new postboxes that will be given a new royal cypher.

In fact, many postboxes carry the initials of previous monarchs.

The Queen made her first appearance on a Bank of England banknote in 1960 and five different portraits were used during her reign
AFP/GETTY



ECONOMY

Truss locks household energy prices for two years

By Hugo Gye
POLITICAL EDITOR

Every household in Great Britain will have their energy prices capped for two years at slightly higher than their current level, Liz Truss confirmed yesterday, although the cost of her economic rescue package remains unclear.

The Prime Minister also said businesses would be protected from higher energy costs for at least six months. She is hoping to drive down the price of energy over the coming months and years by reforming the market, expanding oil and gas drilling in the North Sea and – in an apparent manifesto breach – legalising fracking again.

The existing cap on domestic bills, which analysts had warned could exceed £5,000 next year, will be replaced with a two-year “energy price guarantee”. This will cap bills at no more than £2,500 a year for a household with average energy usage.

Bills Price guarantee

The Government’s energy price guarantee means a typical household will “pay no more than £2,500 per year for each of the next two years”.

The figure is around £1,000 less than the price cap of £3,549 which Ofgem had announced would kick in from next month.

In April the price cap jumped by almost 60 per cent from £1,227 to £1,971. Energy bills were expected to rise to £5,400 in January 2023 before hiking again to £6,600 in April or even higher.

The energy price guarantee will apply in England, Scotland and Wales. Northern Ireland, which has its own energy market, will receive the same level of support.

Liz Truss told MPs: “This will save a typical household £1,000 a year. It comes in addition to the £400 energy bills support scheme. This guarantee supersedes the Ofgem price cap and has been agreed with energy retailers.”

Energy suppliers will be paid the difference between the guarantee and what they would have charged under the cap.

The support package will be paid for by borrowing. Kwasi Kwarteng, the Chancellor, will set out the expected costs later this month but the bill is expected to run into tens of billions of pounds. Previous estimates put it at up to £150bn.

A separate support package will apply to businesses, which are not covered by the energy price cap.

Serina Sandhu

The previously announced £400 bills discount will still take effect this winter, meaning households will pay only a little more than the current price cap of £1,970. The exact level of bills will depend on how much a household uses.

Ms Truss used her first major policy announcement as Prime Minister to try to reassure the public that they will be insulated from soaring costs forecast to plunge millions into poverty. But economists criticised her for refusing to provide an estimate of how much the intervention will cost and how much Government borrowing will rise to pay for it.

Labour accused her of missing an opportunity to make big business pay by imposing an expanded windfall tax.

Households will save more than £1,000 compared to allowing the price cap to rise in line with current market prices, and the savings could be higher, depending on the future path of global gas prices.

All businesses will have their energy costs subsidised for six months so they also do not experience a significant rise in bills. After that, only the most vulnerable will receive Government support.

The overall cost will be laid out by Chancellor Kwasi Kwarteng at a fiscal statement later this month. Government insiders believe it will be in the tens of billions of pounds, but no higher than £100bn.

The Institute for Fiscal Studies criticised ministers for announcing the major intervention without details of the cost, with extra Government debt likely to be issued within weeks to fund it.

The think-tank’s director, Paul Johnson, said: “Given the scale, the failure to provide any official sense of a costing was extraordinary and deeply disappointing. The scale of support will mean that each extra £1 households spend on energy is likely to cost the taxpayer 75p over the next year. This is clearly not sustainable in the long term.”

Labour leader Sir Keir Starmer hit out at Ms Truss for refusing to expand the current windfall tax on oil and gas producers, saying: “She wants to leave these vast profits on the table, with one clear and obvious consequence – the bill will be picked up by working people.”

Business Secretary Jacob Rees-Mogg will open talks with electricity generators to overhaul the system that ties their payments to the price of gas, in an attempt to lower windfall profits.

A support package for Northern Ireland is being worked on and will be announced in the coming weeks.



MARKETS

Emergency help fails to arrest the pound’s slide

By David Connett

The pound approached new lows last night despite the government’s energy rescue package.

Sterling was initially boosted against the US dollar when Liz Truss addressed MPs, having crashed a day earlier amid reports that the Government was set to increase borrowing to fund its energy support pledges.

However, it slipped again at the end of the day and was down 0.22 per cent against the dollar, to \$1.1465, and 0.12 per cent against the euro, when European markets closed.

Currency experts said the falls more reflected the continuing strength of the dollar.

The London Stock Exchange also made gains when markets closed, as investors took in the extent of the costly support package. It was also revealed the Treasury will do its own sums on the estimated cost of the Government’s energy bill rescue package, temporarily sidelining the official Budget watchdog.

“There will be a cost to this. The Chancellor will set out the costs as part of a fiscal statement later this month,” the Prime Minister told the Commons.

Treasury Sir Tom out

Sir Tom Scholar, the top civil servant in the Treasury, has left his post after six years.

Sir Tom (inset) said: “The Chancellor decided it was time for new leadership at the Treasury, so I will be leaving with immediate effect.”

The move prompted criticism from Lord Macpherson, who previously held the top role in the department.

The peer said the senior mandarin’s experience would have been “invaluable”.

“Tom Scholar is the best civil servant of his generation,” he said. “Sacking him makes no sense.”

His experience would have been invaluable in the coming months as Government policy places massive upward pressure on the cost of funding. As Gordon Brown used to say, “They’re not thinking.”

The Treasury said a successor would be appointed shortly.

However, the Office for Budget Responsibility – created to give an authoritative and independent analysis of the UK’s public finances – will not be asked to produce a

forecast alongside the Chancellor’s statement this month.

Instead it will produce one later this year, despite telling the Treasury Select Committee recently it was in a position to provide the forecast at short notice.

Business leaders welcome the Government’s support package. The Confederation of British Industry’s chief economist, Rain Newtoun-Smith, said: “The devil will now be in the detail. Government, businesses and energy suppliers must work together to ensure the support pledged gets to firms quickly.”

“Despite these tough times, business remains in no doubt that doubling down on net zero is the route out of this crisis, the way we grow our economy and the way we make ourselves more energy resilient.”

The PM told MPs she would undertake longer-term reforms to try to avoid a repeat of the current crisis. The energy market will be reformed and its regulation reviewed.

The Government is offering to fix prices for renewable and nuclear power generators in a bid to limit the impact of high natural gas costs on electricity.

Energy experts said in the immediate term energy prices are set to remain high, but the contracts could help to bring down bills and drive support for future investments.





Liz Truss told Parliament that businesses would be protected for six months PRU/AFP

EXPLAINER

Everything you need to know about the new gas and electricity cap

Laurie Havelock answers your questions about the freeze on this winter's energy bills

What is the energy price guarantee?

The Prime Minister, Liz Truss, has pledged that no household in Great Britain will pay more than £2,500 for their energy use for the next two years, starting from 1 October. Similar levels of support will also be made available to homes in Northern Ireland.

Why are energy bills being frozen?

Gas and electricity prices have been soaring this year, prompted in part by Russia's invasion of Ukraine and the knock-on effect on gas supplies from outside of Europe. As a result, the energy price cap – an upper limit on what energy providers can charge, set by the regulator Ofcom – has been raised to £1,971. It was set to rise again to £3,549 in October. With the new guarantee, the price cap has effectively been fixed at £2,500, saving many households more than £1,000 for the next two years.

Does this mean my energy bill will definitely be £2,500?

The price guarantee applies to the price per unit of energy, and the £2,500 figure is quoted in the form of an average bill. Customers may pay more or less than this cap depending on their usage. Households must also still pay standing charges, which are set at a flat daily rate, irrespective of their usage.

Do I need to do anything?

No – the new guarantee will automatically be applied to your gas and electricity account.

Will I need to pay anything back?

No – at least not directly. The Government will be borrowing the money to pay for these measures, and will be forced to repay that money in turn. (See below)

What about the £400 rebate?

The £2,500 figure does not include this rebate, which will still be paid to every UK household as part of a previous cost-of-living support package, announced by Rishi Sunak when he was chancellor. This will be applied directly to your energy bills, divided in to monthly instalments between October and March.

What about other support payments?

The Government has also confirmed that all other support payments promised for this winter will remain in place. You can also still get extra support on your bills if you receive tax credits or

other benefits, while charities and energy firms are also offering extra support through hardship funds, which remain available as they were before.

Do I need to change my direct debit?

No, that will continue as before. As the new guaranteed rate is slightly above the current price cap, it is likely that your monthly direct debit will go up slightly – by an average of 6.5 per cent, according to official estimates. However, your supplier must notify you if there is any change to your direct debit and you must agree to this change, so keep an eye out for any correspondence from them.

What if I'm on a fixed deal?

Around 15 per cent of the nation is on fixed tariff energy deals, which means they may be locked into even higher prices, given the pessimistic predictions about the cost of energy by the end of the year. Though the Prime Minister did not mention any details of fixed deal customers in her statement, I understand that suppliers are being asked to discount current fixed deals or allow customers to transfer to the cheaper variable deal without a penalty. Those who fixed their price within the past 14 days can cancel without charge.

What about prepayment customers?

The price guarantee applies to those who use prepayment meters too, which will be a relief to many as users tend to be in more vulnerable circumstances than those who pay by other means. The rates that prepayment customers are charged, which are slightly higher than others, are likely to be subject to a comparable level of discount, but details are still on their way.



People are feeling the pinch because of higher bills and costs generally

What if I do not pay directly for my gas or electricity?

Ms Truss has assured these households, including those living in park homes, that they will be “no worse off” and will receive support through a fund. Homes that are heated using oil will also be catered for by the fund. More details are due to be revealed next week.

What about help for businesses?

Many firms across the UK are facing a five-fold increase in energy costs as they are not shielded from soaring energy prices unless they had a fixed rate deal in place. The Government will support these companies for the next six months with “equivalent support as is being provided for consumers”. More focused support will be offered for particularly vulnerable or energy-intensive industries, which will be reviewed regularly, starting in December. Hospitality firms are among the sectors that are most likely to qualify, Ms Truss said.

What about public sector groups?

These organisations, including charities and schools, will be offered help in line with the support being offered to businesses.

How are energy suppliers being paid?

The Government will pay suppliers with the difference between this new lower price, and what energy retailers would charge their customers were this not in place.

How will the Government pay for it?

The Government will borrow billions from the global financial markets via bonds – sometimes called gilts – that are sold to pension funds, banks and investment firms. Exactly how much remains to be seen, with some reporting that it could total £150bn, dwarfing the furlough scheme and making it the most costly welfare programme ever carried out in peacetime. These debts will require paying back to investors with interest, and the main way that the government will get that money is through taxation – though this cost will be spread between individuals and businesses, meaning that it should be fairer than energy bills are currently. The Institute for Fiscal Studies estimates that for every £1 households spend on energy this winter, the taxpayer will match it with around 75p.

REACTION

Experts back support package, but worry over 'hefty price tag'

By Serina Sandhu

Economists have broadly welcomed Liz Truss's energy support package to help households grappling with unaffordable bills, but warn taxpayers will ultimately pay the price.

Dr George Dibb, head of the Centre for Economic Justice at the Institute for Public Policy Research (IPPR), called the energy price guarantee “a truly enormous economic intervention that meets the scale of the challenge that households and businesses face this winter”.

“Whilst the policy itself is essential, it does come with a hefty price tag which must be paid by someone,” said Dr Dibb.

“It is up to the Government to decide who bears this burden. It's right that this can be largely supported by borrowing, but even with the price cap in place, companies will be reaping enormous, unearned, windfall profits. It is only fair for the Government to levy a windfall tax on these profits to help pay for these urgent measures.”

Paul Johnson, director of the Institute for Fiscal Studies,

said the policy could easily cost over £100bn in the next year alone, “with more to come in the following year”.

He said: “Given the scale of the package, the failure to provide any official sense of a costing was extraordinary, and deeply disappointing.”

“The scale of support will mean that each extra £1 households spend on energy is likely to cost the taxpayer 75p over the next year. This is clearly not sustainable in the long-term.”

Calling for a better solution for next winter, Mr Johnson added: “The Government has bought us, and itself, some breathing space. It needs to be immediately working out its exit strategy from this costly intervention.”

Dr Tony Syme, a senior economics lecturer at the University of Salford, welcomed the energy price guarantee but said the intervention had come too late.

He said: “Inflation has been allowed to rise unchecked and an autumn of strikes is looming as pay has failed to keep pace. The time for government borrowing had been when interest rates were so low.”

ENERGY

Fresh Conservative divisions arise as

Experts question Truss's plans after she tells MPs gas could flow within six months. By **Richard Vaughan**

Ministers have broken another Tory manifesto pledge in order to lift the ban on fracking as part of Liz Truss's plans to boost energy production in the wake of the invasion of Ukraine.

Boris Johnson vowed to place a moratorium on the extraction of shale gas in England with immediate effect ahead of the 2019 general election and insisted the Conservatives would not support fracking "unless the science shows categorically it can be done safely".

But his successor has torn up the pledge by announcing an end to the ban, going so far as to claim that the change could mean shale gas will start flowing in just six months.

It comes as energy experts warned that the Government's plan to grant fresh licences to explore the North Sea for oil and gas could take up to 10 years in some cases.

Setting out her plans in the Commons, the Prime Minister told MPs: "We will end the moratorium on extracting our huge reserves of shale – which could get gas flowing as soon as six months – where there is local support for it."

The hugely controversial plans have triggered fresh divisions within the Tory party, with several MPs in the North and East Midlands previously reliant on

the Conservatives' opposition to fracking to keep their seats.

Chancellor Kwasi Kwarteng commissioned a review into shale gas exploration in April, during his time as Business Secretary, to ascertain whether the science had changed, led by the British Geological Survey.

But it understands the report, which was submitted to officials in July, will be unable to "categorically" conclude that the science has changed and instead will state that more time is needed to ascertain its safety.

The decision to push ahead with ending the moratorium on fracking comes despite Mr Kwarteng (*inset*) expressing his own doubts over the efficacy of the policy to both bring down gas prices and increase UK supplies.

He said in March: "No amount of shale gas from hundreds of wells dotted across rural England would be enough to lower the European price any time soon."

He added a month later: "Fracking in England would take years of exploration and development before commercial quantities of gas could be produced for the market, and would have no effect on prices in the near term."

Energy experts have raised their

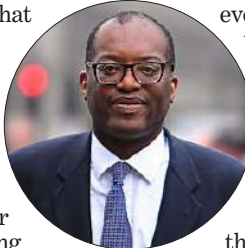
own doubts that there has been any change in the science to provide political cover to begin fracking.

Professor Jim Watson, an expert in energy policy at the University College London, told *i*: "The science hasn't changed in regards to fracking. There's no real experience in doing it in this country and there are lots of questions from safety and seismic impact to how much it will cost and how much we are even able to extract; all of these are very difficult to answer."

Prof Watson added that any gas production from fracking would only come in the "medium to long term", adding that the pledge to provide more than 100 new licences for oil and gas extraction in the North Sea would take years.

"It could take five or even 10 years for these licences to be agreed and for that to add to our gas supplies. It won't have an impact this winter or even next winter."

Conservative MPs opposed to fracking criticised the decision. One, who represents a Red Wall seat, told *i*: "The shale gas industry has failed to produce any gas after 12 years of trying. It would take thousands of wells all over the country to have any impact on our own supplies."



Protesters Pauline Jones (left) and Tracey Booker at the fracking site in Preston New Road, Little Plumpton, near Blackpool yesterday PETER BYRNE/PA

Comment

Fracking is not the solution to the UK's energy crisis – but there are other options

Professor Jon Gluyas



The UK is in its worst energy crisis since possibly the 16th century when a shortage of firewood and hence the ability to cook food drove the nation to the brink of starvation. Starvation was averted in many quarters by breaking the taboo of digging for coal. And so began the industrial revolution and Britain's rise to global domination on the back of coal dug from the ground in Lowland Scotland, South Wales and mines in England.

The decline of coal began in Britain just after the First World War but it was not until the late 1960s and early 1970s that we faced another energy crisis. Fate was on our side again with the discovery of North Sea gas and then oil. By the time Margaret

Thatcher entered No 10 we were a net exporter of both oil and gas – a petro-economy – and remained so until 2004, when we flipped to energy imports as our production dwindled.

Now in another energy crisis some folk think we can again turn to the rocks of the UK to deliver us a bonanza of home-produced shale gas by fracking.

So, could shale gas fracking onshore in the UK help dig us out of the energy crisis? The short answer is no. We would need thousands of wells available immediately – and it would take years to assemble the vast quantity of drilling and other equipment required. Moreover, we have the wrong kind of geology – our shales are typically clay-rich and will not hold a fracture

Could shale gas fracking onshore in the UK help dig us out of the energy crisis? The short answer is no

like the crispy siliceous ones commonly found in the US. Our geology is "too small" – we don't have the vast areas of acreage with uniform geology that enables a factory-like approach to drilling and completions. Then of course there will be planning regulations to be overcome and society to mollify.

There are many easier ways to get our required energy: use less by improving building standards and retrofits, and extract not petroleum but zero-carbon heat from the ground. The geothermal potential of the UK to supply itself with zero-carbon heat and half the nation's total energy bill is vast – it is estimated to be at least 100 years' supply. Offshore wind has already demonstrated it can deliver sustainable low-cost power too. The opportunity for growth there is obvious, as it is for onshore wind – quick to install and deliver a return.

We can improve our energy security, sustainability and affordability with existing technology and know-how and a coherent long-term energy policy would help that happen.

Professor Jon Gluyas is director of Durham Energy Institute at Durham University. He spent 28 years in the petroleum industry

REACTION

Angry campaigners vow to fight return of shale gas extraction

By Steve Robson

NORTHERN REPORTER

Campaigners have vowed to renew their fight against fracking after the Government confirmed it would lift the ban imposed in 2019.

Fracking was suspended after activity by the oil and gas exploration company Cuadrilla at its Preston New Road site in Lancashire caused a 2.9-magnitude tremor in August 2019.

The Prime Minister, Liz Truss, has now said fracking can go ahead where there is "local support".

Susan Holliday from Preston New Road Action Group, based near Cuadrilla's site in Fylde, Lancashire, said the decision was "astounding".

A Government-commissioned British Geological Survey (BGS) report on the latest evidence on shale gas extraction is still to be published.

"As far as we are aware, nothing has changed since the earth tremors of 2019," said Ms Holliday. "What has

happened to the report that the BGS were commissioned to produce?

"Once again, communities are going to have the cloud of fracking hanging over them. As a community, the people around Preston New Road have consistently demonstrat-



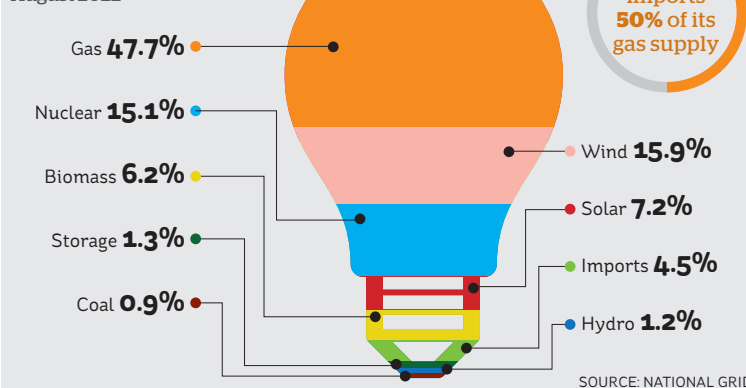
Fracking at the Preston New Road site has been suspended since 2019

PM lifts controversial fracking ban



How is our electricity generated?

August 2022



Keeping the lights on Usage rising post-pandemic

Whether it's making a cup of tea or manufacturing a fleet of cars, we all depend on energy to function in our day-to-day lives.

Many of us will have taken what we believed to be our seemingly plentiful supply for granted at times.

But as utility bills have raced higher, you might be paying closer attention than ever to your usage – and perhaps where we source the vital commodity that keeps things ticking over.

Here we take a look at how much electricity was generated and used in Great Britain last month, and where it came from.

Gas accounted for the largest share of generation in Britain in August at 47.7 per cent, while carbon sources

averaged 39 per cent, with wind and nuclear making up 31 per cent of this electricity, according to National Grid data.

Looking at how the pandemic affected our usage, energy consumption slumped in 2020 as the UK locked down and the coronavirus ripped through the country.

As we gradually began to emerge from the pandemic, consumption rose. In 2021, it was still down nine per cent on 2019.

Market insights firm the Economist Intelligence Unit predicted last year that global energy consumption would increase by 2.2 per cent in 2022 as economies further recover from the pandemic.

Katie Grant

TECHNOLOGY

Shale gas won't solve crisis, experts warn

By Dean Kirby

Academics and environmentalists have warned that fracking will do nothing to solve Britain's energy crisis.

Hydraulic fracturing was banned in England in 2019, in a dramatic U-turn for the Government, after a report by the Oil and Gas Authority found it was impossible to accurately predict the "probability and magnitude" of earthquakes caused by fracking.

The move was hailed as a victory by local campaigners, particularly in Lancashire, with even some Tory MPs describing it at the time as a "necessary decision" following a series of tremors.

The then business secretary Andrea Leadsom said at the time the moratorium was introduced because it was "clear that we cannot rule out future unacceptable impacts on the local community".

Ms Truss's decision to push ahead with fracking again has been met with major criticism. The Scottish Government's policy is to refuse to grant permission for fracking. Moratoriums already exist in Wales and Northern Ireland.

Dr Simon Sweeney, a reader in

international political economy and business at the University of York, said: "In 2019, the Government declared that fracking should not take place 'unless and until further evidence is provided that it can be carried out safely'.

"No such evidence has been provided. There has been no consultation or debate around ending the moratorium."

He added: "While public opposition to fracking may have softened due to the energy crisis, this is based on false premises."

"Fracking will not reduce gas prices which depend on global pricing, nor would the resulting shale gas resolve supply issues in any short or medium term."

"The risks from fracking remain, especially earth tremors, methane escapes, aquifer contamination, and excessive demands on limited water supplies."

Georgia Whitaker, an oil and gas campaigner for Greenpeace UK, said: "Proposing fracking is less a solution to the UK's energy issues and more of an attempt to distract us from them."

"It may well not work because the UK does not have the vast empty expanses of the USA," she added.

UTILITIES

Firms given fortnight to detail sewage plan

By David Lynch and Martina Bet

The new Environment Secretary has given water company chiefs two weeks to set out "significant improvements" to prevent sewage being dumped in open water.

Ranil Jayawardena also faced calls from Labour for "tougher sanctions", including prison sentences, for water bosses responsible for pumping effluent into the UK's rivers and beaches.

He told the Commons: "The volume of sewage spewed out by water companies is completely unacceptable and the public have rightly shown their outrage."

"Yesterday, in my first day in office, I told water chief executives that it is not good enough and I have instructed them to write to me formally by 21 September with a plan on how they are going to make significant improvements."

"I met the Environment Agency and Ofwat too, and told them that they should use every enforcement power available to them to make sure there is compliance, and I will

not hesitate to take further action if I do not see the pace of change that this House expects."

Over the summer, the Liberal Democrats campaigned on preventing sewage pollution, leading to Mr Jayawardena accusing them of having done "nothing" to prevent the problem while they shared power with the Conservatives in the 2010-2015 coalition government.

Lib Dem MP Sarah Olney demanded that "Southern Water compensates Sussex seaside businesses" after sewage spills led tourists to avoid the county's beaches.

Mr Jayawardena replied: "The Liberal Democrats' plan is to simply play politics. When they were in government, they did not take the action that we have done now."

Shadow Environment Secretary Jim McMahon said that "over the summer the Government allowed water bosses to dump sewage on 90 beaches", adding: "Without tougher penalties they will not change their behaviour, and it's got to include tougher sanctions, including prison sentences."

Is the Government's 'advice' a waste of energy?

The Government is believed to be planning a public information campaign to encourage people to use less energy this winter.

But do the measures likely to be recommended actually work?

Mr Elbourne predicts this could save you 50p to £1 a week (based on the current price cap). Modern TVs are more efficient, meaning the savings would be minimal.

TAKE SHOWERS INSTEAD OF BATHS

Fact check: Yes, within reason

Cutting out baths can definitely reduce household energy use, especially if you also spend less time in the shower.

According to the Energy Saving Trust, limiting showers to just four minutes can save you up to £70 a year.



INSULATE YOUR LOFT

Fact check: Yes

One of the best things you can do to reduce energy consumption in your household is also one of the most expensive.

Those who have the cash to do it should consider insulating their loft this year. Mr Elbourne said: "If a household runs at 100 points of efficiency, if we were to put in insulation, this can increase to 112. So it can be 10 per cent more efficient on energy usage, which can have a massive difference."

Lucie Heath

ed that they don't want fracking."

Claire Stephenson, from Frack Free Lancashire, added: "We're in the midst of a climate crisis. There can be no mitigation of this fact, and to allow fracking to restart is both dangerous and regressive."

"Communities do not support fracking. We have been here before. This is not a new experience for residents in Lancashire and beyond. We've dealt with this nightmare for over 10 years now."

"There has been absolutely no progress other than communities being torn apart, uncontrollable methane emissions, structural damage from earthquakes and most notable of all: zero commercial gas produced."

"We stand strongly opposed to fracking anywhere and will fiercely challenge any attempt to restart this dirty technology."

A spokesman for Frack Free United, David Davis, said: "The moratorium which has been removed had required evidence for it to be lifted but there is no sign that the evidence has changed. Instead, a new government has made a knee-jerk decision and appears happy for communities to take the risks that fracking the complex UK geology poses."

Cuadrilla chief executive Francis Egan welcomed Ms Truss's announcement and said the Government has made the "right call".

ANALYSIS

The advantage of Truss plan is that it could curb inflation for all

We will not know if strategy has worked until next year – or even later. By **Hamish McRae**



Governments can't hope to do this sort of thing well. The question is whether they do it well enough. And, in the case of this massive programme to cap energy prices, we won't know the answer until well into next year, maybe longer.

Somehow the Government had to find a way to protect people and businesses from the surge in energy prices. It had to do so for social reasons. You cannot have vulnerable people unable to heat their homes through the winter. And it had to do so for economic reasons. The quadrupling and more of energy prices threatened to crash the economy.

There are two broad approaches. One is to focus support on the people hardest hit. That makes sense and the Government initially did that. Now it has added the second – capping prices for all domestic users for two years and businesses for six months. In effect, the Government is acting as insurer of last resort.

If the wholesale gas price falls back, it is off the hook but, if the price soars yet further, that adds even more to the country's national debt. Top-end estimates are that it could add £150bn to a debt of £2.4trn, though it could be much less.

The advantage of the new plan is that it will hold down inflation for all. In a sense it is inequitable in that people with the largest homes benefit most. But it has the great advantage that it holds down both the Consumer Prices Index (CPI) and the Retail Prices Index (RPI). Pensions and many commercial contracts are linked to the CPI, while government index-linked debt and other contracts to the RPI. This will help cut the ultimate burden on the taxpayer.

This is not the ideal way of coping with the crisis, and many people will attack elements of the package. One obvious charge is that it is not enough. People will still end up paying a lot more to heat their homes this winter.

Criticism will include the emphasis on increasing domestic gas production rather than further support for renewable sources of power. And there was no further tax on the energy companies on top of the excess profits levy put in place by Rishi Sunak when he was chancellor. How this will play

out for the UK electorate remains to be seen, but the plan does seem to have passed one crucial hurdle: the judgement of the financial markets.

There is a huge amount going on in the markets at the moment, including the sharp increase in interest rates by the European Central Bank and the more general flood of money into the US dollar. But the news that the UK Government might end up borrowing up to an extra £150bn was actually received quite calmly. The important yield on 10-year government bonds, or gilts, was stable at a little over three per cent. The pound was reasonably steady too.

This is not a vote of enthusiastic support from the world of big money. The reaction is more like: "That's OK, now let's see what you do next."

This new Government has a long and difficult way ahead to build a reputation for financial competence as well as getting to grips with the other objectives set out by its new Prime Minister. But it is a first step on the stony path.

£2.4trn

The national debt is already standing at the figure above



The Government had to find a way to protect people from soaring costs

Energy As escalating costs cripple businesses and citizens, here's how the rest of Europe is reacting

Benchmark European gas prices have surged about 340 per cent in a year, and jumped as much as 35 per cent on Monday after Russia's state-controlled Gazprom said it would indefinitely extend a shutdown to the Nord Stream 1 gas pipeline.

According to the Household Energy Price Index, in Europe only the Czech Republic is paying more for electricity than the UK.

The latest figures in July showed that the UK is paying more than 52 pps (an artificial currency unit which eliminates the differences of price levels between EU countries) per kWh of electricity. Italy is paying about 46, France 23, Spain 30, Germany 35, and Portugal 33.

We take a look at what different nations have done to alleviate the rising cost of living for their citizens.

IRELAND

Coalition leaders in Ireland met on Wednesday night to discuss plans to tackle the energy crisis, according to RTE. The meeting also considered Budget 2023 proposals aimed at assisting households and businesses as they see inflation soar,

while according to Ireland's national radio broadcaster, measures such as setting temperature limits in public buildings and concentrating more staff in certain areas to reduce heating bills could be announced.

FRANCE

France has committed to capping an increase in regulated electricity costs at 4 per cent. To help do this the government ordered EDF, which is 80 per cent state-owned, to sell more cheap nuclear power to rivals.

However, ministers have signalled that this cap – at least at that low level – could be unsustainable.

New measures announced since the Ukraine crisis – such as helping companies with the cost of higher gas and power bills – bring the total cost of the package to between €25bn (£22bn) and €26bn, the Finance Minister Bruno Le Maire said.

French energy regulator CRE last month proposed a 3.89 per cent increase in regulated electricity sales tariffs. France's government can oppose the regulator's proposed rate hike and set new tariffs at a lower level, or reject them outright.

GERMANY

Workers who pay income tax will receive a one-off energy price allowance of €300 (£260). Families will receive a one-time bonus of €100 per child, which doubles for those on low incomes.

Over the next few years, €12bn (£10bn) to €13bn will be allocated annually to subsidise renovations to old buildings.

However, German households will have to pay almost €500 more a year for gas after a levy was set to help utilities cover the cost of

replacing Russian supplies. The levy, introduced to help Uniper and other importers cope with soaring prices, will run from 1 October until April 2024.

On Sunday, the Chancellor Olaf Scholz said Germany will spend at least €65bn on shielding customers and businesses from soaring inflation with measures including benefit hikes and a public transport subsidy.

GREECE

Greece's government yesterday announced a carrot-and-stick drive to cut public-sector energy use by 10 per cent this year, linking compliance to funding and urging state employees to switch off lights and appliances when leaving the office.

Greece has spent about €8bn on power subsidies and other measures since September 2021.

It will double subsidies for power bills next month to €1.9bn, extending financial support introduced last year to shield consumers from surging prices.

The subsidies will absorb up to 94 per cent of the rise in monthly power



Greece has spent about €8bn on power subsidies since September

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Union rises up over pay

People taking part in the Scotland Demands a Pay Rise march organised by the Scottish Trades Union Congress in Edinburgh yesterday JANE BARLOW/PA

Comment

The PM is thinking long-term but has serious battles ahead

Henry Hill



Liz Truss is going to have a lot to deal with over the winter: a clash with Brussels over Northern Ireland; a legal challenge from Nicola Sturgeon over Scottish independence; and inflation corroding departmental budgets.

But to win the right to a hearing on any of those issues, she was always going to have to land her response to the energy crisis first.

If people had found themselves unable to heat their homes over the country, it would have been a failure so obvious that the Tories' reputation would not have recovered. It would simply have been a matter of marking time until the next election.

Truss seems to have realised it. Notwithstanding her free-market instincts, the package she announced yesterday was an extremely expensive dose of state intervention.

The Government may have had little choice in the matter. Having lost two months selecting the new prime minister, there would probably not have been time to fine-tune mechanisms for getting money only to those households which really needed it.

Why a two-year cap? It could be to give Britain time to further diversify our energy supplies. But it also ensures that bills aren't going to do anything crazy until

after the next general election.

There is less long-term certainty for businesses, as well as public-sector operations such as schools and hospitals, which have been offered just a six-month guarantee scheme to get them through the winter.

As the Government is not offering the same guarantee extended to domestic users, there will be some politically fraught decisions to make about which businesses to support.

On the domestic side, the maximalist approach chosen by the Government seems likely to take the political sting out of the energy crisis, at least in the short term. Labour will complain that it is being funded through

borrowing rather than a windfall tax, but the calculation of the Truss team is that so long as people's bills are being sorted out, they aren't going to care too much about how it's done.

Meanwhile the Conservatives don't want to be "bashing producers" because they are trying to incentivise those same companies to expand operations in the North Sea and increase British energy production.

That push to increase production is the most obvious area Truss's plan might run into trouble. The North Sea is uncontroversial enough. But expanding onshore production is another question altogether.

Tory MPs are allergic to onshore wind, Truss has spoken out against farmers using solar panels, and while the moratorium on fracking might be lifted, it's a long way from that to overruling local councils and actually getting wells dug. Even if she carries through her predecessor's commitment to deliver new nuclear power stations, that will take years.

Previous prime ministers, with stronger mandates and better economic conditions, have failed to break British politics' addiction to short-term thinking. It would be a huge achievement if Truss could do that from where she is starting now.



Tory MPs generally do not like onshore windfarms AFP

Henry Hill is the deputy editor of 'Conservative Home', a political blog that is independent of the Conservative Party

Comment

Truss's bailouts represent broken system

Andrew Fisher



Liz Truss has outlined the policy that will define her premiership. If she can convince voters this is the best option to ease the cost of living, she may revive the Tories' flagging polling.

Annual domestic energy bills will be capped at £2,500 until 2024 but it still represents an eye-watering 95 per cent increase since the beginning of this year.

For people on lower incomes – whether on benefits, pensions or low pay – finding extra money, on top of rising shopping bills, petrol prices, rents, council tax and more is going to be tough.

So the absence of any announcement of targeted support is a cruel omission. The Government broke its

commitment to maintaining the pensions triple lock (the previous government planned to reinstate it next year), and so the state pension only rose by 3.1 per cent in April, as did social security benefits like universal credit – a real-terms cut for millions already struggling.

This is particularly perverse when UK gas producers and electricity generators may make excess profits totalling £170bn over the next two years, according to Treasury estimates.

This is why both Labour and the Liberal Democrats have been calling for a further, extended windfall tax.

But the PM and former Shell employee Liz Truss has broken the consensus (that under Boris Johnson and Rishi Sunak included the Conservatives), asserting she was "not giving in to the Leader of the Opposition in introducing a windfall tax".

Yet new polling out today by Survation on behalf of 38 Degrees shows 76 per cent of 2019 Conservative voters support a windfall tax on the excess profits of energy companies.

And to make matters worse, Liz Truss has just announced £30bn in tax cuts that benefit corporations (including energy giants) by reversing Sunak's proposed rises in corporation tax and national insurance.

The right combination is to remove profit entirely from a natural monopoly and essential good. Aside from debates around windfall taxes, this is a failing market. Many energy companies have already failed – the state has

Many companies have already failed. We shouldn't be propping up this system, we should be taking it over

spent billions bailing them out – and many more will fail without state intervention this winter, as many customers will not be able to pay their bills. We shouldn't be propping up this system, we should be taking it over.

If this is socialism, then it's socialism supported by the majority of Conservative voters – 56 per cent of whom support bringing energy into public ownership, against only 22 per cent who oppose it (it's 60 vs 13 per cent of the public as a whole).

Liz Truss has bailed out a failing system, and we will pick up the bill twice – through our energy bills and the future costs of the £130bn of debt, just as tax breaks are handed out to corporations and the better-off.

If this was her make-or-break moment – then it should be break.

Andrew Fisher is a former executive director of policy for Labour

bills for households and 89 per cent of the rise for small and medium-sized firms.

Greece has imposed a cap on payments to power producers to reflect their real production costs, effectively scrapping a surcharge on electricity bills.

NORWAY

Norway has been subsidising household electricity bills since December and now covers 80 per cent of the portion of power bills above a certain rate. This will be increased to 90 per cent from September, with the scheme to remain in place until at least March 2023.

SPAIN

Spain has begun to temporarily subsidise fossil fuel plants' power costs in a bid to bring down high prices in the short term. The system is due to last until 31 May, 2023.

It has also cut taxes to reduce consumer bills, and announced €16bn (£14bn) in direct aid and soft loans to help companies and households weather energy prices.

Claire Gilbody-Dickerson

PEOPLE

PM appoints Deloitte director as chief economic adviser

Truss's economics guru Matthew Sinclair's belief in tax cuts is what drives her policies. By **David Parsley**

At the beginning of August, at the height of the Conservative leadership election campaign, Liz Truss unveiled a policy aimed at cutting "Whitehall waste".

The policy, which would have seen civil servants outside of London paid less than those in the capital, only lasted a few hours. Ms Truss was forced to U-turn after it emerged that the planned £8.8bn in savings was only achievable by cutting wages across the whole public sector.

Where did this "war on Whitehall waste" idea come from? We got a big clue on Tuesday, after Prime Minister Truss announced the appointment of Matthew Sinclair as her chief economic adviser.

Mr Sinclair, who studied at the London School of Economics, is not only a director of accounting giant Deloitte, he is also a former

chief executive of the right-wing think tank The Taxpayers' Alliance (TTA), which has played a pivotal role in forming the economic thinking of MPs on the right of the Tory party for more than a decade.

Back in 2012, while at the TTA, Mr Sinclair (*inset*) argued for the scrapping of national pay deals for civil servants.

In an article in *The Guardian*, he wrote: "Ending centralised pay bargaining would mean better value for taxpayers, better services for those who rely on them, and a fairer deal for public sector workers overall. There is no reason workers in some regions should get an arbitrary windfall, and others unnecessary hardship, simply

He will be on the side of radical reform to the UK tax system but will not have time to push through his agendas

because of the quirks of national pay bargaining."

He has long been an advocate of low taxes and is believed to be driving the Prime Minister's plan to raise income tax thresholds, reverse Rishi Sunak's 1.25 per cent rise in national insurance and the suspension of the green levy on energy bills.

He has also advocated the abolition of the Government's Green Investment Bank, which is now independent of government and called the Green Investment Group.

In 2016 he said: "I think we've pushed energy efficiency too far, too fast. Not really more 'efficient', just warmer." He is likely to endear himself to ministers such as Jacob Rees-Mogg, the new Business Secretary. Like Mr Rees-Mogg, he is a keen advocate of a smaller state.

In 2010 he edited *How to Cut Public Spending (And Still Win an Election)*. The following year he



Matthew Sinclair is said to be against tax increases, especially for the rich

authored *Let Them Eat Carbon: The Price of Failing Climate Change Policies, and How Governments and Big Business Profit From Them*.

One of the public sector-saving cuts he may bend Ms Truss's ear about is the abolition of the Equality and Human Rights Commission, which he advocated while at the TTA. Nimesh Shah, chief executive of tax and advisory firm Blick Rothenberg, described Mr Sinclair as "an interesting but unsurprising appointment".

"It very much aligns with Truss's stance on tax cuts and reducing costs within Whitehall," he said. "Matthew is openly known

to be against tax increases – in particular for the wealthy – and I would expect he will be on the side of radical reform to the UK tax system, but I'm not sure if he or the Government will have enough time to see through that agenda.

"I don't have any doubt in Matthew's capability to advise the new Government, but I would be concerned about the lack of counterbalance he provides... Truss is vehement in her economic strategy but the lack of diversity on this stance is a real gamble"

Russ Mould, investment director at AJ Bell, added: "The appointment of Matthew Sinclair is further confirmation – not that it is particularly needed – of Prime Minister Liz Truss' preference for a tax-cutting, deregulating administration.

"Even those who share his philosophy may have to reluctantly accept that the early 80s were very different from the situation that faces the Truss Government, in that the UK's national debt to GDP ratio was barely 40 per cent then compared to more than 90 per cent now, and interest rates were falling from double-digit levels rather than rising from record lows.

"As a result, there is on the face of it, little or no money in the kitty and much less room for manoeuvre."

That lack of money "in the kitty" is unlikely to prevent Mr Sinclair pushing a tax cutting, cost slashing agenda.

SPACE

More planets have water – possibly up to half, science shows

By **Nina Massey**

Many more planets may have large amounts of water than previously thought – as much as half water and half rock, new research suggests.

However, rather than flowing freely like the rivers on Earth, the water on these planets is likely to be embedded in the rock.

All life on Earth needs water to survive, so when scientists look for signs of life throughout the galaxy, planets with water are always at the top of their list.

Rafael Luque, first author on the new paper and a postdoctoral researcher at the University of Chicago, said: "It was a surprise to see evidence for so many water worlds orbiting the most common type of star in the galaxy.

"It has enormous consequences for the search for habitable planets."

As stars are so much brighter than their planets, the actual planets themselves cannot be seen.

Instead, scientists detect faint signs of their effects on their stars – the shadow created when a planet crosses in front of its star, or the tiny tug on a star's motion as a planet orbits.

That means many questions

remain about what these planets actually look like.

Co-author Enric Palle of the Institute of Astrophysics of the Canary Islands and the University of La Laguna, said: "The two different ways to discover planets each give you different information."

Scientists can gauge the diameter of the planet by analysing its shadow when it crosses in front of its star.

And they can assess its mass by measuring the tiny gravitational pull that a planet exerts on a star.

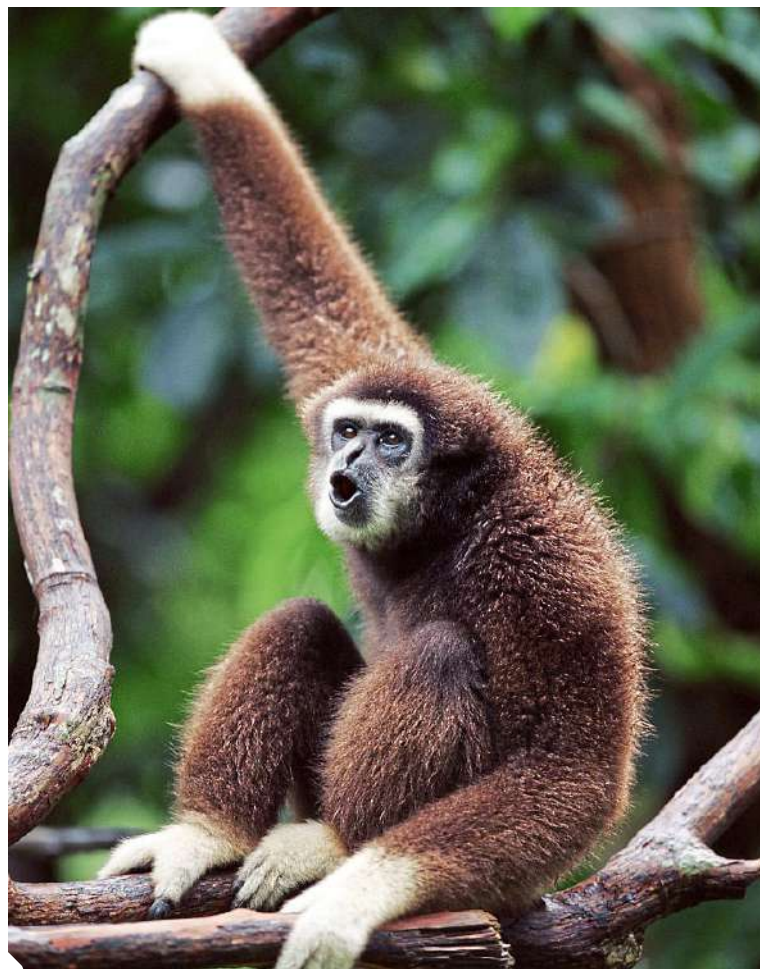
By combining the two measurements, scientists can get a sense of the make-up of the planet.

The researchers took a population-level look at a group of planets that are seen around a type of star called an M-dwarf – the most common stars seen in the galaxy.

The densities of a large percentage of the planets suggested that they were too light for their size to be made up of pure rock, the researchers say.

They suggest that instead these planets are probably something like half rock and half water, or another lighter molecule.

The findings are published in the journal *Science*.



Two species of gibbon extinct

China has declared two species of gibbon extinct in the wild as a result of deforestation and "human activity". The call of the white-handed gibbon (pictured) had not been heard for at least 10 years in

the wild and the northern white-cheeked gibbon had not been heard for 15 years or more. Researchers said it should serve as a warning over the impact of human activity on wildlife and the environment.

POLICE

Arrest made in Olivia murder investigation

By **Eleanor Barlow**

A man has been arrested on suspicion of assisting an offender in connection with the murder of nine-year-old Olivia Pratt-Korbel.

The 29-year-old was held yesterday after warrants were executed at three properties in the West Derby area of Liverpool, a spokesman for Merseyside Police said. Searches at the properties were continuing and the man was being questioned by detectives, the force added.

Olivia was shot in her home in Dovecot, Liverpool, at about 10pm. on 22 August. The assailant was chasing a convicted burglar, Joseph Nee, who had burst into the house when Olivia's mother, Cheryl Korbel, opened her front door to see what the commotion outside was.

On Wednesday, a 34-year-old Liverpool man arrested on suspicion of Olivia's murder was released on bail, along with three other men arrested on suspicion of assisting an offender.

Earlier this week, Ms Korbel, who was also hurt in the shooting, appealed on video for her killer to hand themselves in. She said: "You know you've done wrong, so you need to own up. Like I taught my kids, you do something wrong, you own up to it."

A spokesman for Merseyside Police said: "We continue to appeal for people with information to come forward to assist us in bringing those responsible to justice."

Art of cultural support

As a symbol of support for Ukraine's art and cultural scene, Christine Shevchenko, a Ukrainian-American dancer from Odesa, performs on top of a sandbag art installation entitled 'Defiant Dancer' at Covent Garden, in London.

In Ukraine, statues and cultural monuments are entombed in sandbags to protect them from missiles in the war.

It comes ahead of the United Ukrainian Ballet's production of 'Giselle' at the London Coliseum, with profits going to the DEC Ukraine Humanitarian Appeal and the United Ukrainian Ballet Foundation.

KIERAN CLEEVES/PA



News in brief

MEDIA

Journalist 'sorry' over 'coconut' jibe

A journalist has apologised for describing ethnic minority members of Liz Truss's senior team as "the coconut cabinet".

Iain Macwhirter, a former BBC correspondent, responded to a tweet from Professor Tim Bale, of Queen Mary, University of London.

Mr Macwhirter replied: "The coconut cabinet?" – a term implying that people from ethnic minorities are white on the inside.

POLITICS

Johnson supporters helped Truss to win

Major Tory donors and Boris Johnson supporters helped Liz Truss to raise more than £420,000 for her leadership challenge.

Updates to the MPs' Register of Interest, published yesterday, show that the new Prime Minister received support towards her campaign worth £424,349. Rishi Sunak, raised £446,765 in donations.

ENVIRONMENT

Overhaul to give councils more say on housing

By Arj Singh

DEPUTY POLITICAL EDITOR

Planning laws are set to be overhauled to end house-building targets set by central government and allow local communities to approve developments more easily, in a move that risks splitting Conservative MPs.

At her first session of Prime Minister's Questions this week, Liz Truss said that she was asking her Housing Secretary, Simon Clarke, to water down the powers of the Planning Inspectorate, arguing that it was "too easy" for it to overrule councils' decisions.

It understands that Mr Clarke is also looking at enacting Ms Truss's leadership pledge to end "Soviet-style" and "top-down" housing targets, and could move to change the Levelling Up Bill going through Parliament to make it a reality.

But that risks a backlash from Tory MPs in constituencies in southern England who are facing the threat of election defeat by the Liberal Democrats.

Ms Truss appears to be conscious of the danger, promising last month to beef up the anti-Lib Dem unit at Tory headquarters as part of a bid to save the "Blue Wall" of Tory seats.

Several Conservative MPs are thought to be worried about losing

their seats to Liberal Democrats and in March Ms Truss's predecessor, Boris Johnson, was forced to ditch his radical planning legislation in the face of a backlash from backbenchers. The Prime Minister's planning reforms will form part of her wider plans to deregulate in a bid to boost economic growth.

During the Tory leadership contest, she promised to develop a Conservative "bottom-up" approach, putting more power in the hands of local people and councillors.

Ms Truss has also said she will look to encourage "new and innovative" housebuilding on brownfield sites, in a bid to fulfil the Conservatives' 2019 manifesto pledge to build 300,000 homes by the mid-2020s.

The new Prime Minister has long had the planning laws in her sights for reform. She sparked a backlash in 2018 after saying that Conservatives must accept building homes in the countryside.

{i} When she was Chief Secretary to the Treasury, Ms Truss insisted that "we need to open up more land for building", while complaining that there were "a lot of nimbys ('not-in-my-backyards') in Britain".



Ms Truss vowed to encourage 'new and innovative' housebuilding on brownfield sites to fulfil a pledge to build 300,000 homes by the mid-2020s

Analysis

Truss might want to think again about Government's housing target

Vicky Spratt

HOUSING CORRESPONDENT



If Liz Truss believes that tax cuts and reform will boost economic growth over the coming years and fund her energy bill freeze, she might want to come up with a plan for housing.

During the Tory leadership contest, Ms Truss made her disdain for the Government's target to build 300,000 new homes a year by the mid-2020s, which she described as "Soviet top-down housing targets".

She might want to think again. Building homes for sale on the open market drives economic growth because several sectors, most obviously housebuilders

and construction but also estate agencies and financial services such as mortgage lending, rely on the housing market.

Building housing also creates jobs in the construction sector, and indirectly through the supply chain.

The new Prime Minister could go even further. According to poverty experts the Joseph Rowntree Foundation (JRF), investment in housing – particularly affordable social housing – can be an effective tool to stimulate the economy.

This is for three main reasons, according to the JRF. Firstly, the lag between investment and impact is often far shorter in housing than in other types of investments. Investment in housing makes fiscal sense through reducing the housing benefit bill and universal credit expenditure for those in the construction sector. Housing investment can create significant tax revenues.

In Scotland, the UK Collaborative Centre for Housing Evidence found that building 53,000 affordable homes to be delivered between 2021 and 2026, would support inclusive growth and increase GVA (gross value added, a way of measuring productivity) by creating around 200,000 jobs and contributing more than £2bn additional output per year.

Ms Truss made her pitch to the Conservative Party by promising "growth, growth and more economic growth". As inflation soars and living costs rise, she might want to think again about where that growth is coming from – housing would be a very good place to start.

COMMENT

How can we have a health chief who is anti-abortion?

Thérèse Coffey voted against terminations in the past. By **Vicky Spratt**



Medical experts from the Royal College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists to the World Health Organisation are in agreement that access to abortion is both essential healthcare and a human right.

As the person now in charge of the Department for Health and Social Care, Thérèse Coffey will, among other things, be in charge of abortion policy.

But Coffey, a practising Catholic, has a long record of voting in favour of restricting abortion, which begs the question of whether she can objectively follow medical advice in her new role.

As a backbencher in 2010, Coffey (*inset*) introduced a motion in Parliament which called for mental health assessments for women seeking an abortion. When Parliament voted on extending abortion rights to women in Northern Ireland, Coffey voted against it.

Earlier this year, she also went against medical advice and voted to oppose extending the right to access abortion pills for early medical abortions before 10 weeks at home.

In June, shortly after the US Supreme Court voted to overturn the landmark Roe v Wade ruling, which legalised abortion in America, Coffey told Sky News that she “would prefer that people didn’t have abortions, but I am not going to condemn people that do”.

Questioned this week on her position, she said: “I’m conscious I have voted against abortion laws. What I will say is I’m the complete democrat and that is done, so it’s not that I’m seeking to undo any aspects of abortion laws.”

But healthcare experts fear that Coffey, who has no medical

background, will not be objective in her decision making. Katherine O’Brien, associate director of communications and campaigns at the British Pregnancy Advisory Service, told *i*: “It is deeply concerning that somebody who has clearly put their personal beliefs above expert medical advice is now our Health Secretary.”

Abortion is what’s known as an issue of conscience, which means that MPs are allowed to vote according to their moral, ethical or religious beliefs.

Let’s consider the vote earlier this year on whether or not women and people with uteruses should be able to take abortion pills at home.

Medical experts agreed that this provision, which was put in place during the first lockdown, was working by making it easier for those who need an abortion to access it, while also reducing waiting times. Yet 174 Tory MPs voted against allowing it to continue.

The views held by Coffey and other Tory MPs are not only completely out of step with medical opinion, but that of the public.

As the British Social Attitudes Survey shows, there is near unanimous support (93 per cent) for abortions when the woman’s health is endangered, while clear majorities support it if the woman does not want the child (70 per cent) or if the couple cannot afford any more children (65 per cent).

A YouGov poll conducted in 2020 found that nine out of 10 UK adults identify as pro-choice.

The restriction of abortion in America this year shows that the right to abortion cannot be taken for granted anywhere. Globally, there are powerful people who are not afraid to influence policy, regardless of public opinion.



Dehenna Davison was one of the first MPs to back Liz Truss after Boris Johnson resigned GETTY

POLITICS

‘Red Wall’ MP who found TV fame appointed junior minister

By **Hugo Gye**
POLITICAL EDITOR

Reality TV star Dehenna Davison has been made a minister at the age of 29 as Liz Truss has moved to include the newest cohort of Conservative MPs in her Government.

The Prime Minister has reappointed a clutch of Boris Johnson allies who were fast-tracked into ministerial office when his administration was collapsing.

Ms Davison is now a junior minister in the Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities. Her boss, Secretary of State Simon Clarke, is himself only 37.

The MP for Bishop Auckland first found fame after marrying a man 35 years older than her and they appeared together on a Channel 4 doc-

umentary, although she is now in a relationship with a senior diplomat.

Ms Davison has campaigned for greater understanding of how people can be killed by a single punch after her father died in that way when she was a teenager.

In recent months, the ‘Red Wall’ MP has been a regular presenter on GB News and a critic of Mr Johnson, becoming one of the first MPs to endorse Ms Truss for leader.

Four other MPs first elected in 2019 were appointed to the Government last night: Andrew Griffith is the Financial Secretary to the Treasury, Brendan Clarke-Smith becomes a minister in the Cabinet

Office and Joy Morrissey (*inset*) and Stuart Anderson are whips. All four were given jobs by Mr Johnson in July as he scrambled to fill posts vacated by Tories who quit in protest at his conduct.

Mr Griffith, a former executive at Sky who helped to run Mr Johnson’s leadership campaign, was briefly head of the No 10 policy unit as part of the former Prime Minister’s attempted reset of his Government earlier this year.

As Financial Secretary to the Treasury, he will play a key role in pushing through proposed post-Brexit reforms to the City of London, which are designed to boost economic growth.



NATURE

Ireland a hot spot for mating sharks

Marine biologists have found that basking sharks seen off western Ireland are engaged in annual courting and mating behaviour – the first place in the world where this has been verified. Scientists captured footage of 19 circling groups of males and females off Co Clare from 2016 to 2021.

TELEVISION

Ex-hobbits rally around new cast

Stars of the *Lord of the Rings* franchise have condemned the “relentless” racist abuse of cast members of Amazon’s *Rings of Power* series. Elijah Wood, Sean Astin, Billy Boyd and Dominic Monaghan (*right*) shared posts of solidarity online with the caption “You are all welcome here”.



PEOPLE

Edmondson to become Toad

Adrian Edmondson will become the voice of Mr Toad in a new animated version of *The Wind In The Willows*. The series, titled *Toad And Friends*, is due to launch on Warner Bros Discovery’s primary school brand Cartoonito in 2023. “Toad is a very enthusiastic person, which I am too,” said the comedy actor, 65.

MUSIC

One Direction to reunite? ‘One day’

Louis Tomlinson hopes One Direction will reunite for a big event. The band, formed on *The X Factor*, became one of the biggest pop groups in the world. Discussing whether a reunion was possible, Tomlinson told ITV’s *Lorraine*: “One day. There’s a lot of moving parts but it would be a shame if we didn’t.”

RELATIONSHIPS

Even first dates are no longer immune from the cost of living

Research shows that nearly half of people are considering cheaper meet-ups. By **Beth Ashley**

Tom is a single 24-year-old engineer who uses a number of dating apps, including Tinder, Bumble and Hinge. He is self-employed and admits that cash is tight at the moment, so has started warning dates ahead of time that his budget is limited for first dates. "I don't earn very much. I can't avoid the conversation. Eventually they will want to go on a date and I've got more of a garden centre [café] budget than a restaurant one."

He matched with one woman and they were messaging back and forth for around three weeks, hitting it off, he says: "[It was like] we'd known each other for years." So Tom brought up the subject of money. "I told her that if we met, it would have to be cheap and cheerful," he explains. At that point the woman unmatched.

Tom says the situation was "embarrassing" and "a bit heartbreaking. I didn't know her for very long but I had that feeling that she was it and then she disappeared." This reaction has put him off from being honest so early on about his finances but he remains unsure when the right time is to bring up money.

As the cost-of-living crisis squeezes people's finances, Tom is not alone. Research from the

dating app Bumble found nearly half (42 per cent) of people are now preferring to go to modest first date locations to avoid pressure or stress about spending money, leading to a rise in so-called "low-key dating". Around 30 per cent of people aged 18-34 are conscious of their date's budget when suggesting a venue compared to 19 per cent of 35- to 54-year-olds.

Instead of splashing out to impress – buying endless drinks and going for dinner even when a coffee would have been enough time to chat – budgeting is becoming a key theme in dating: one in five (21 per cent) of 18- to 34-year-olds is more likely to set themselves a budget for a date than at the beginning of 2022. And almost one in three (30 per cent) says it's now more important to talk about finances with the person they are dating than it was at the start of the year.

After years of dating being affected by lockdowns and the pandemic – with many resorting to socially distanced dates on park benches or at picnics – now the cost of living crisis is having a ripple effect too.

This goes beyond the high-stakes first dates to thoughts about long-term commitment too. Almost one in five (19 per cent) says that it is more important to them now to be with someone that is financially



Many first dates no longer involve dinner – as it did in the film 'When Harry Met Sally' – but take in walks instead

stable than it was at the start of this year. In 2018, my friend Jake* made a Tinder profile. Having recently graduated and experiencing the classic difficulty of not being able to find a well paid job he started his dating app bio with "cans in the park is about all I can afford right now but I'm cute and nice".

"I'm not going to get any matches am I?" he asked me, laughing.

Back then, in 2018, it's not that I thought people would be superficial enough to avoid skint people on dating apps, it was more that talking about money, along with religion and politics, was just unheard of on the dating scene.

Today, born out of necessity, the new dating trend, coined by some as "cash-candid dating", involves being more honest and open about finances with your dates. One of those straight-talkers is 26-year-old artist Connie. She says: "I'm very much the epitome of a cliché-struggling artist and, while I love meeting people and I want to find my person, I couldn't afford to be going on dates every five minutes

"I told her that if we met, it would have to be cheap and cheerful. At that point she unmatched"

unless they're free. I don't ask anyone what they earn and can afford, but I tell them what I can cover. And that's not a lot."

At the other end of the spectrum, those earning more are also being upfront about it to sound out the other person. Lawyer Catriona, 28, says: "It's just a way of saving time. Time is money as they say. I earn a lot of money as a lawyer and most of the men I've dated have earned less than me and, while we think it's fine initially, it always causes problems later down the line, like jealousy and power imbalances.

"It might sound a bit gross but now I'd rather get it on the table straight away. I naturally slip questions about earnings and what kind of lifestyle a person has and is looking for into the talking stage, along with the usual conversations about music and food."

It's probable that the cost-of-living crisis has left even the over-polite British anti-money-talkers with nowhere left to run, prompting us to have frank conversations.

Jessica Alderson, a relationship expert and founder of So Synced, a dating app that matches people based on personality types, says it is mostly a good thing to chat about money and be upfront about your financial situation with prospecting

partners. "Being open about your finances on dating apps filters out people who are interested in you for the wrong reasons. It also shows a level of honesty and vulnerability which are both attractive traits."

Sometimes it should not be a dealbreaker, she says, adding: "You may end up missing out on great matches who wouldn't care about your financial situation if they'd spent the time getting to know you."

While making money a key consideration is understandable, you might be missing out on a great partner with money-minded tunnel vision going on behind the scenes. While long-term considerations are worth bearing in mind, the pressure to bankrupt yourself for first dates – to spend more than you can afford to meet a stranger – seems to be giving way to the reality of the financial outlook for many.

Alderson says: "You'll need to weigh up the advantages and disadvantages of being upfront about your financial situation on dating apps. There's no right or wrong way to go about it."

With the UK on ongoing financial turmoil and all of us feeling some level of insecurity around money, we've finally learned to start speaking about it to one another – even with relative strangers.

UNIVERSITIES

Students could quit their degrees without support

By **Poppy Wood**
EDUCATION REPORTER

Universities have called on the Government to take action on the cost of living crisis, warning that students will quit their degrees if they are not offered support this autumn.

Professor Steve West, the president of Universities UK, said he would meet education ministers in the coming weeks to demand additional hardship funding and a reinstatement of maintenance grants, which were scrapped in 2016.

"Universities and their communities are not immune to the issues [the current economic crisis] is going to cause," he told vice-chancellors at a Universities UK conference yesterday.

"This Government needs to lean into the cost of living crisis now faced by students and staff. Over the next few months it's going to get tougher."

Professor West (*inset*) said soaring inflation means the value of student

loans has hit its lowest level in seven years. The maximum maintenance loans are now more than £1,000 short of the national minimum wage for university-age students.

It comes after the Institute for Fiscal Studies warned last month that financial support for students is failing to keep up with skyrocketing inflation which, at 10.1 per cent, is at its highest level since the start of the tuition fees era.

Maintenance loans for students from England will rise by just 2.3 per cent over the next academic year, well below current forecasts for inflation to hit 12 per cent in the autumn.



TRAVEL

Poll shows increase in 'staycations'

By **Alan Jones**

Two out of three people have taken their main holiday in the UK this year, research suggests.

A survey of 2,000 adults found that one in five believed it was too expensive to go abroad, with many still worried about airport delays.

The warm weather this summer also helped persuade holidaymakers to stay in the UK, said the report.

The Travelodge hotel chain said the majority of people it polled took three "staycation" breaks so far in 2022, averaging four days, at a cost of more than £500 per break.

Seaside resorts remained the most popular areas for holidays, according to the study.

Shakila Ahmed, spokeswoman for Travelodge, said: "Our latest travel index shows that 2022 is set to be the year of the Best of British holidays."

"Record heatwaves this summer have also inspired Britons to take more spontaneous breaks, which is great news for British tourism."

"We are also seeing that travel trends are changing, with so many places to see and so little time and money, the traditional two-week holiday is on the decrease and a lot more shorter breaks are on the increase."

CULTURE

Special 50p coin marks 25 years of Harry Potter

By Vicky Shaw

A 50p Harry Potter coin has been revealed as part of a new collection celebrating 25 years since *Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone* was published in the UK.

It depicts the young wizard and will be available to buy from the Royal Mint's website later this month.

It is the first of four coins – modelled by Ffion Gwillim at the Royal Mint – featuring the work of Jim Kay, the artist who created a fully illustrated edition of the debut Harry Potter novel.

The other coins will feature the Hogwarts Express, Albus Dumbledore and Hogwarts.

Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone was published in the UK in 1997 by Bloomsbury Publishing.

The Mint will reveal the launch date for the new coin in the coming weeks. Ms Gwillim described the illustrations as “iconic and recognisable”.



The 50p coin is the first of four featuring the work of Jim Kay, the artist who created a fully illustrated edition of the first Harry Potter book THE ROYAL MINT/PA

TRANSPORT

Rail workers suspend two days of strikes next week

By Alan Jones

A leading rail workers' union has suspended strikes planned for next week as a result of the Queen's death.

Members of the Rail, Maritime and Transport (RMT) union were due to walk out in a long-running dispute over pay, jobs and conditions.

Its general-secretary, Mick Lynch (*inset*), said: “The RMT joins the whole nation in paying its respects to Queen Elizabeth. The planned railway strike action on 15 and 17 September is suspended. We express our deepest condolences to her family, friends and the country.”

The strikes were set to take place at 14 rail firms, and involve 40,000 workers. London is expected to have



many more visits from mourners wanting to pay their respects.

It is now unlikely that any further strikes will disrupt specific events including the Queen's funeral or the coronation of King Charles III.

Earlier, it was announced that train drivers at Aslef would no longer strike on 15 September.

Finn Brennan, the Aslef organiser on London Underground and Tramlinc, said: “Although the improved offer does not meet our aspirations, Aslef will always look for a solution that avoids disruption to passengers and our members losing money unnecessarily while trying to achieve our objectives.”

“Our negotiating team has agreed to postpone the strike so we can

meet management to discuss and further improve their offer.”

Before the Queen's death was announced last night, the Transport Salaried Staffs Association (TSSA) said its members at Govia Thameslink Railway (GTR) would vote on whether to join the rail strikes. GTR operates the Thameslink, Southern, Great Northern and Gatwick Express routes.

TSSA members include platform and ticket office staff, train crew, engineers, control, administration and management.

The ballot opens on 15 September and closes on 6 October.

Angie Doll, chief operating officer of GTR, said: “Our focus remains on encouraging all unions to continue to work with the industry to seek a resolution that will ensure the long-term sustainability of the railway.”

MOTORING

Electric price rise stalls demand

By Neil Lancefield

Demand for electric cars is at risk of stalling due to a lack of affordable models and high energy prices, new analysis warns.

A report by consumer website Electrifying.com stated that there are only seven new electric car mod-

els on sale in the UK for less than £30,000. That compares with 107 petrol or diesel cars in the same price bracket.

The analysis also found that the amount of money saved by running an electric car instead

of petrol has reduced as energy prices spiralled and pump prices fell.

Latest figures from the Society of Motor Manufacturers and Traders show the increase in sales of new pure electric cars has slowed down in recent months.

The number of registrations during the first three months of the year was 102 per cent more than the same period in 2021.



The creature was last seen in the city more than 100 years ago GETTY

WILDLIFE

Rare pine marten spotted in London

By Conrad Smith

A pine marten has been spotted in London for the first time in more than a century.

The elusive mustelid was once widespread across Britain, but was driven to extinction a century ago through woodland clearing and predator control.

One was sighted in Shropshire in 2015. Now, a Zoological Society

of London camera has captured one of the animals in woodland in Kingston-upon-Thames.

Elliot Newton, the borough's biodiversity officer, told *The Guardian*: “The individual caught on our cameras is in good health and is a very welcome addition to our local fauna. We will be continuing to monitor for more sightings and continue our efforts to protect our environment.”

WORLD FOCUS

Discontent grows over China's 'mafia don' Xi

By Michael Day

CHIEF FOREIGN COMMENTATOR

The knives are out for China's paramount leader Xi Jinping as he tries to position himself as dictator for life.

Even if he succeeds, his lust for power will continue to foment opposition – and prompt decisions that threaten global security, a leading dissident has warned in an astonishing expose of the backstabbing, nepotism and corruption within the Chinese Communist Party (CCP).

Cai Xia, ex-professor at the CCP's Central Party School for 14 years before fleeing the country in 2012 after criticising Mr Xi's policies, describes him as a paranoid and ruthless "mafia don", whose family connections allowed him to rise without trace through the ranks of the CCP.

Her detailed and devastating assessment of the CCP and of Mr Xi in particular, come as the Chinese

leader aims to break the rules by being anointed President, general secretary and for a third term after October's five-yearly conference. Such a development would put him shoulder to shoulder with Mao Zedong as a Chinese leader.

Ms Cai says that the CCP "is more of a mafia organisation than a political party... The head of the party is the don, and below him sit the underbosses, or the standing committee. And, like the mafia, the party uses blunt tools to get what it wants: bribery, extortion, even violence".

She adds that contrary to the popular belief – and Chinese propaganda – that suggest Mr Xi rose through talent, "the opposite is true". Rather, she says, "Xi benefited immensely from the connections of his father", Xi Zhongxun, a CCP leader who served briefly as propaganda minister under Mao.

Crucially, Ms Cai writes in *Foreign*



Former apparatchik Cai Xia said Xi Jinping had risen to power thanks to his father's Communist Party links

Affairs magazine that, behind the scenes, Mr Xi's power is being questioned as never before. By discarding China's long tradition of cabinet rule and creating a cult of personality reminiscent of the one that surrounded Mao, Mr Xi has infuriated party insiders.

His unbridled ambition has caused him to undo the restrictions put in place by his predecessor, Deng Xiaoping, which limited China's presidency to two five-year terms and established a form of collective leadership. Mr Xi launched a major anti-corruption campaign, framing it as a virtue, but used it as a pretext to eliminate opposition.

In 2020, Chinese state television aired a confession by Sun Lijun, once a high-ranking security official, who had been charged with corruption and now faces the prospect of execution. Officials say he "harboured hugely inflated political

ambitions" and had "evil political qualities". But, according to Ms Cai, voices critical of Mr Xi's draconian zero-Covid policy are growing and he faces growing opposition from all political factions. Glimpses of these divides can be seen in the powerful CCP standing committee. In May, premier Li Keqiang told 100,000 party cadres in an online conference that the economy was in worse shape than expected.

Contrary to the conventional wisdom among Western analysts, Mr Xi's proliferating opponents could succeed in ushering him out of office, she says. But Ms Cai adds that "the most likely outcome" in October is that Mr Xi, having so rigged the process and intimidated his rivals, will get his third presidential term.

"The moves he would likely make in a third term would raise the odds of war, social unrest and economic crisis."

UKRAINE

Russia accused of 'stealing' nuclear plant with grid cut-off

By Hanna Arhivova

IN KYIV

The head of Ukraine's atomic energy operator, Enerhoatom, accused Russia of trying to "steal" Europe's largest nuclear plant by cutting it off from the electricity grid and leaving it on the brink of a radiation disaster.

The Zaporizhzhya plant has been without an outside source of electricity since Monday, and receives power for its own safety systems from only one of its six reactors that remains operational.

"We are trying to keep this unit running as much as possible, but eventually it will have to be shut down, and then the station will switch to diesel generators," said Petro Kotin, the head of Enerhoatom, adding that such generators are "the station's last defence before a radiation accident".

Ukraine and Russia have traded blame for shelling that has damaged parts of the plant as well as the transmission lines that connect it to Ukraine's electricity network.

Mr Kotin said the Russians "have a crazy idea to switch the plant to the Russian power system; in fact they are trying to steal the Zaporizhzhya nuclear power plant of Ukraine and steal all the electricity it produces".

He said connecting the plant to the Russian grid was practically impossible given the hostilities in the area. He added: "There is no other solution than de-occupation, the transfer of the plant to the control of the Ukrainian side or international security organisations."

The plant was seized by Russian forces early in the war but is still run by Ukrainian engineers.



The grain terminal at Ukraine's Black Sea port of Odesa has restarted grain exports after Russia agreed to a sea corridor VALENTYN OGIRENKO/REUTERS

FOOD

Too few ships to clear grain mountain

By Jonathan Saul, Nigel Hunt and Pavel Polityuk

Too few ships are arriving in Ukraine to quickly clear the mountains of grain built up over months of war despite a UN-backed sea corridor, experts say.

The blockage is threatening to drive up global food prices and leave the country's cash-strapped farmers struggling to plant crops.

On Wednesday, Vladimir Putin triggered fears that Russia could withdraw support for the sea corridor after he accused Kyiv of using it to

export to the EU and Turkey rather than poor nations, particularly in Africa.

Even if the agreement holds, the dangers of sending ships into the heavily mined Black Sea, along with a lack of large vessels and the exclusion of a major port, means volumes transported are well below Ukraine's goal of doubling farm exports to at least six million tonnes by October.

"For the moment, we do not send our ships to Ukrainian ports because we don't believe it is safe," said Alexander Saverys, the chief executive of shipping group CMB.



Lanterns light up festival

Women in costumes attend a lantern show at a ceremony for the mid-autumn festival at Wong Tai Sin temple in Hong Kong, ahead of the public opening today.

ISAAC LAWRENCE/AFP

PAKISTAN

People erect barriers as floodwaters continue to rise

By Syed Raza Hassan
and Asif Shahzad

IN BHAN SYEDABAD

Villagers near Pakistan's largest freshwater lake fled their homes yesterday as flood waters continued to rise, while officials said 12 more deaths took the toll to 1,355.

Hundreds of thousands of people have been forced from their homes in

a disaster blamed on climate change and estimated to have caused losses of about \$10bn (£8.6bn), disrupting the lives of nearly 33 million of a population of 220 million.

In the southern province of Sindh, one of the worst-hit regions, people worked to strengthen an existing dyke as floodwaters threatened the town of Bhan Syedabad.

Traffic choked the narrow road



A girl displaced by flooding at a temporary housing camp

out of the town as residents fled to nearby villages after evacuating their houses. "Helicopters are available to rescue the rich, but I had to hire a boat for 2,000 rupees (£7.80) to rescue my family," said 25-year-old Abdul Fahim, whose nearby home flooded overnight.

A short distance away, Pakistan's largest freshwater lake of Manchar was dangerously close to bursting

its banks, as high water levels persist despite breaches by authorities to stave off further floods in an effort that displaced 100,000 people.

National disaster authorities said 12 deaths in the past 24 hours carried the toll to 1,355. Seven were children, who make up 481 of the dead.

The floods were brought by record monsoon rains and glacier melt in northern mountains. REUTERS

SOUTH AFRICA

Conservationists launch cheetah relocation plan

By Mogomotsi Magome
and Sebatso Mosamo

IN BELA BELA

South Africa is flying cheetahs to India and Mozambique as part of ambitious efforts to reintroduce the spotted cats in regions where their population has dwindled.

Four cheetahs captured at South Africa reserves have been flown to Mozambique this week after being held in quarantine for about a month and cleared for travel.

Conservationists are preparing to fly 12 more cheetahs, reputed to be the world's fastest land mammals, to India in October.

Speaking shortly after those going to Mozambique were tranquillised and placed into crates, wildlife veterinarian, Andy Frasier, said the relocations are tough for the animals.

"It's a very stressful process for the cats to be in a boma (livestock enclosure) environment because they have nowhere to go while we are

darting them," he said of shooting the cats with darts of tranquillisers.

"They have woken up nicely in their crates and they are all relaxed enough that we are happy for them to leave in their transport," he said.

Mr Frasier said the team was preparing for the larger and more challenging relocation of cheetahs to India, which will require the cats to travel a much longer distance with stops in commercial airports.

Those cheetahs would be treated with a tranquilliser that lasts for three to five days during their travel.

There are two subspecies of cheetahs. Those that once roamed in Asia were declared extinct in India in 1952 and are found now only in Iran.

There have since been efforts to reintroduce these cats to India's savannahs. The plan had been to bring them in from Iran, but now they are being moved from southern African countries.

As part of the restocking effort, Namibia is contributing eight cheetahs which will be flown to India this month, according to Vincent van der Merwe, the manager of the Cheetah Metapopulation Initiative. South Africa will send an additional 12 cheetahs to India in October.

"For a genetically viable population in India in the long-term you need at least 500 individuals, so every year we will send eight to 12 animals, to top them up, to increase



A cheetah is loaded on to a stretcher after being tranquillised at a reserve near Bela Bela, South Africa DENIS FARRELL/AP

numbers, to bring in new genetics until they have a viable population," said Mr van der Merwe.

Indian officials say the move will aid global cheetah conservation efforts since their range in Africa is limited. The plan is for the cats to be kept in large enclosures in central Indian forests, protected from other predators like leopards or bears, to

give them time to get used to their new home.

The enclosures have prey – like deer and antelope – which scientists hope the cheetahs will hunt. After a few months of close monitoring, the cheetahs will be radio-collared and released.

Conservationists say that Mozambique's Zambezi River Delta had a

significant cheetah population but it was drastically reduced by rampant poaching and because lions and leopards preyed upon the smaller cats.

In this week's operation, the two male and two female adult cheetahs were tranquillised in South Africa's northern Limpopo province and flown to Mozambique's Marrromeu National Reserve. AP



South Africa's cheetah population is expanding at a rate of **about 8 per cent annually**, allowing the country to move about 30 of the cats to other game reserves within South Africa and to export some to other countries.

UNITED STATES

Baseball union goes out to bat

By Karl McDonald

One of the smallest unions in the US, the Major League Baseball Players Association (MLBPA), joined the country's largest trade union bloc.

The announcement included news that minor league baseball players, who often earn less than minimum wage, would be invited to join with the sport's most elite participants.

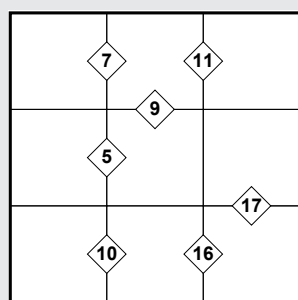
Tony Clark, executive director of

MLBPA, said: "[We are] strengthening our player fraternity by bringing the minor leaguers under our umbrella as well as joining the American Federation of Labor and Congress of Industrial Organisations.

"Together we are going to work in a way that's going to be a further reminder of the strength and unity and value associated with focus and purpose – something the labour movement has always committed to."

One-minute Wjuko

How to play Place 1 – 9 once in the grid, obeying the sums between pairs of squares



Solution: page 50

VIETNAM

Noodle seller arrested over video

By Martin Petty

A noodle seller famous in Vietnam over a viral video that was widely viewed as mocking a senior government official has been arrested – the latest in a crackdown on critics of the country's communist rulers.

Bui Tuan Lam, 38, who runs a beef noodle stall in the coastal city of Danang, is accused of anti-state propaganda by posting

online content which allegedly distorted the guidelines and policies of the ruling party, a police spokesman said.

In 2021, police summoned him for filming himself imitating the flamboyant moves of celebrity chef Nusret Gokce ("Salt Bae"), days after Vietnam's minister of public security was caught on camera eating gold-encrusted steak at the chef's London restaurant. REUTERS

WEATHER

Summer across Europe was hottest for years, climate experts say

By Taz Ali

This summer was the hottest in Europe in at least three decades, according to data from EU satellite monitoring.

The average temperature over Europe in 2022 was the highest on record for both August and summer by “a substantial margin”, the Copernicus Climate Change Service (C3S) revealed yesterday.

Average temperatures from June to August were 0.4°C above the previous hottest summer in 2021. Temperatures last month were also 0.8°C above the previous hottest August in 2018.

Eastern Europe suffered the worst, though south-west parts of the continent also had “well above average” temperatures.

Much of the continent also had significantly drier conditions than average, a situation that contributed to the raging wildfires that burned thousands of acres in several countries.

Globally, the average August 2022 temperature was the joint third-warmest August on record, which dates back to 1991.

Freja Vamborg, a scientist with Copernicus, said: “An intense series of heatwaves paired with

unusually dry conditions, have led to a summer of extremes with records in temperature, drought and fire activity in many parts of Europe affecting society and nature in various ways.”

Temperature records were broken in several places in Europe in the UK, a new high of 40.3°C was recorded in July. During the same period, Scandinavia, as well as portions of central and south-eastern Europe, Greece and portions of Turkey, saw more rain than average, Copernicus reported.

The warning comes just weeks after European officials said that the drought was probably the worst the continent has seen in “at least 500 years” – a milestone they say contributed to climate change. Officials made the devastating statement after the European Commission’s Global Drought Observatory unveiled a report detailing how nearly half of the continent has been impacted by drought.

Also in August, England experienced its driest July recorded in nearly 90 years, a situation that has taken a severe toll on agriculture.

Weather, page 76



Fire forces evacuation

Emergency crews park at a roadside yesterday as they tackle a fast-spreading forest fire that broke out in Gülnar, a rural area in Turkey’s Mediterranean coastal province of Mersin, on Wednesday. Around 790 people were evacuated from 300 homes as a precaution while the blaze was contained, and officials said there were no casualties.

ANADOLU AGENCY/GETTY

CONSUMER

Chain fined £216,000 over metal shard in doughnut

By Ellen O'Dwyer

The confectionery chain Krispy Kreme has been fined £216,000 after a large shard of sharp metal was found in one of its doughnuts.

A customer who purchased the treat in Melton Mowbray, Leicestershire, was told the object was a piece of foil from the packaging.

Melton Borough Council, which prosecuted the firm, said it was contacted about the incident in 2021. It said “no controls were in place that could have mitigated the hazards” that led to the incident, such as metal detection or checks of a machine.

Krispy Kreme UK Ltd admitted three food hygiene and safety offences. Tom Pickwell, a solicitor for the council, told Leicester magistrates that the metal shard (*below*), measuring nearly 15mm long, presented a risk of choking or cutting within the mouth.

Krispy Kreme conceded it had received two similar complaints and had identified damage to a piece of equipment, a vari-mixer.



CORONAVIRUS

Under-50s ‘must be given boosters to protect NHS’

By Layton Ryan-Parson

Covid booster jabs should be made available to under-50s to ease pressure on the NHS this winter, experts have said.

The autumn booster vaccination roll-out, which began this week, is aimed at protecting the most vulnerable people from an expected spike in coronavirus cases during the winter months.

So far, boosters will be given only to those aged 50 or over; health and social care workers and those most at risk from the disease and there is no sign of the roll-out being extended to younger people with no underlying health conditions.

But health experts have told **i** that making a Covid booster jab available to them could help ease pressure on hospitals if there is a rise in both flu and Covid cases.

Currently, anyone can get a winter flu jab at their pharmacy for a small fee, but Covid booster vaccinations are not currently being made avail-

able in the same way. The Department for Health has ruled this out.

Professor Lawrence Young, a virologist at Warwick University, said that while the current booster roll-out would ease pressure on the NHS, “so much depends on what happens with other respiratory virus infections over the winter such as flu and on whether we will be confronted with new variants.

“If this happens and a new Covid variant leads to significant outbreaks, we will have to consider broadening the campaign to those under 50.”

Dr Eleanor Gaunt, a research fellow at the Roslin Institute at Edinburgh University, said the booster programme should “absolutely” be broadened out.

“We have seen with the Omicron variant that previously people who have had all their vaccinations are still being infected at a really high frequency,” said Dr Gaunt (*inset*).

But Professor Sir Andrew Pollard, chair of the Government’s Joint Committee on Vaccination and Im-

munisation, said the booster jabs will not be offered to healthy younger adults as they are “extremely highly immune” from either past vaccination or Covid infection.

He said vaccinating only those with underlying health issues is “cost effective” for the NHS, as it lowers hospitalisations and GP visits.

According to the Office for National Statistics, in the week to 28 September, those aged 85 and over made up the largest number of Covid-positive hospital admissions per 100,000, at 57.7. For 25- to 44-year-olds it was 2.27.

Dr Deepti Gurdasani, of Queen Mary University of London, said: “We have to understand that the vast majority of people who are below 75 are probably going to be eight or nine months off their last booster meaning many of those people will not be protected from infection.”

i The autumn booster roll-out has been timed specifically to avoid the busiest time for the NHS.



PEOPLE

Styles jokes that he ‘went to Venice to spit on Chris Pine’

By Mike Bedigan

Harry Styles quipped that he “went to Venice to spit on Chris Pine” in response to a viral video from the world-famous international film festival.

The pop star (*inset, left*) attended the festival for the premiere of Olivia Wilde’s psychological thriller *Don’t Worry Darling*, in which he stars alongside Florence Pugh and Pine.

In a video that caused uproar on social media, Styles was seen returning to his seat at the screening and dipping his head slightly, causing Pine (*inset, right*), who was sitting next to him, to react in a confused manner.

The clip was widely circulated, though a representative for Pine said that the idea that the singer spat on him was “ridiculous”.

They added: “This is a ridiculous story – a complete fabrication and the result of an odd online illusion

that is clearly deceiving and allows for foolish speculation. Just to be clear, Harry Styles did not spit on Chris Pine.

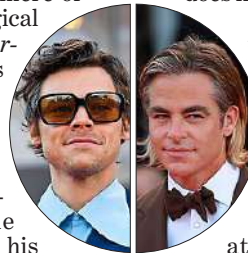
“There is nothing but respect between these two men and any suggestion otherwise is a blatant attempt to create drama that simply does not exist.”

Styles has since returned to his US tour, performing in Madison Square Garden, in New York, on Wednesday night.

Wearing a bright yellow and pink T-shirt, he laughed as he told fans: “This is our tenth show at Madison Square Garden. It’s wonderful, wonderful, wonderful to be back in New York. I just popped very quickly to Venice to spit on Chris Pine... but fear not, we’re back.”

His words prompted screams and laughter from the audience.

The spitting incident is the latest of a series of claims of inter-cast disagreements on *Don’t Worry Darling*.



Opinion

The Opinion Matrix

COMMENT FROM HOME AND ABROAD

TRUSS'S LEADERSHIP



In some ways worse than Johnson

The Guardian

That someone of Truss's abilities should be in charge at this dire moment of British history makes her seem, in defiance of political physics, even worse in some ways than her predecessor. Cometh the hour, cometh the woman; Britons could only laugh hysterically and rock back and forth. (Emma Brockes)

Daily Mail

In no sense is our new Prime Minister the political offspring of Boris Johnson, much as she loves to praise him. She could be the saving of this country. This is a tribute to her political skills. (Stephen Glover)

ATTAINMENT GAPS



Education shows up inequality

Daily Mirror

As millions of children returned to the classroom, a newly released report has revealed that we have had the biggest Standard Assessment Test results gap since 2012. Fewer things highlighted the difference between the haves and have-nots than the impact on education during Covid. (Eva Simpson)

New Statesman

It's tempting to blame the whole thing on Covid. The Department for Education did, and so, by convenient inference, families. A decline as sharp as this is not a two-year phenomenon. (Kate Clanchy)

THÉRÈSE COFFEY



What matters is she has PhD in chemistry

The Times

What matters or should matter is this: Coffey has a scientific background, including a PhD in chemistry. She works hard and has gained a reputation for attention to detail. (Jawad Iqbal)

The Daily Telegraph

Take Dr Thérèse Coffey, the new Deputy Prime Minister and Health Secretary. Coffey is an accomplished woman. She grew up in Liverpool, went to Oxford and holds a PhD in chemistry. As work and pensions secretary, she guided the welfare system through the pandemic with no little administrative skill. She's clever and fun. (Nick Timothy)

THOMAS THE TANK ENGINE



New autistic character is great for kids

Grazia

Introducing neurodiverse characters or those who have an invisible disability helps normalise them. Children learn through stories, play and role models so it's vital for them to show as many different types of people and conditions as possible. (Editorial)

The Independent

So let's celebrate Thomas the Tank Engine's new autistic friend. Most importantly, let's continue that momentum to bring more autistic people, and more diverse autistic people, into the public eye. (Ellie Middleton)

PAKISTAN'S FLOODS



A test of climate and foreign policy

Bloomberg UK

While the government in Islamabad struggles with the human and economic cost of extreme weather, the crisis is also a test of the country's great foreign policy gamble of the past few years – replacing the US with China as its principal external partner. (Bobby Ghosh)

The New York Times

Sometimes a weather event is so extreme and so far-reaching, it can be hard to make sense of, particularly from a distance. More than 1,000 people have died, with more than a million houses destroyed or damaged. Over 100 bridges have collapsed. (David Wallace-Wells)

PROTECTING NATION



No borders mean no country

The Sun

There is another issue which any prime minister should make a priority, and that is our nation's borders. I have said this before, but if you don't have borders then you don't really have a country. (Douglas Murray)

The Conversation

The realities of life as a digital nomad, and the dream of shedding your nationality for a borderless, paperless version, are full of day-to-day complications, as I have discovered – particularly if you do not belong to the young, white and Western stereotype that the media tends to perpetuate. (Dave Cook)

Quote of the day



Intelligent women are dangerous, no?

Samantha Morton
The actress on playing Catherine de Medici in 'The Serpent Queen'

Life In Brief

BRUCE MONTAGUE ACTOR

When Bruce Montague, who has died from cancer aged 83, attended a dinner party with writer Carla Lane, he did not know she was sizing him up for the role he would become best known for.

In the popular BBC sitcom *Butterflies*, Mr Montague was Leonard Dunn, the love interest of married woman Ria, played by Wendy Craig.

"*Butterflies* had a universality about it – the frustration of middle age and marital angst, which people identified with. Carla dealt with it so sympathetically," he explained in a 2019 interview with *WhatToWatch*.

Although it first aired in 1978 on BBC Two, the show found a broader audience when it showed on BBC One the following year. Mr Montague became so popular that he received hundreds of letters from adoring viewers. In the US, there was a fan club devoted to him. However, not everyone

loved the show – puritans took offence at his close, "will they, won't they" relationship with another man's wife.

Although nothing untoward happened in *Butterflies*, the duo were reunited in *Doctors* in 2019 as a bona fide couple, Connie and Clyde. This time, they were decidedly up to no good and Clyde went along with Connie's "moneymaking" scheme.

That same year, Mr Montague was Abner Dillon in the musical *42nd Street*. In a review for the *Daily Mail*, Quentin Letts noted: "Old Bruce Montague hams it up as an ageing ogler who has put \$100,000 into the production simply because he fancies Miss Brock."

The actor appeared in television's *New Tricks* and *Hollyoaks*. He also penned non-fiction books, including *Birds, Bees and Educated Fleas* (2015) and *The Book of Shakespearean Useless Information* (2016).

Bruce Montague was born in Deal, Kent. He left school when he was 15 years old and went to study at Royal Academy of Dramatic Art. Before he graduated in 1959, he spent some time learning photography with the Royal Air Force (RAF) in Malaysia.

In an interview with the *Daily Express*, he said: "When people ask if I'd always wanted to be an actor, I tell them I had no choice because I couldn't do anything else."

"I completed my national service as an aerial photographer in the RAF. If I'd owned my own camera, I'd probably have become a photographer, but didn't have one, so turned to acting."

Upon graduation, Mr Montague joined the Birmingham Repertory Company, then went on to Colchester Rep before joining *The Old Vic*.

His first television appearance came in 1963, when he was Inspector Larbi in



Crane. In the late 60s, the actor's career took him abroad. He directed and acted in New Zealand and Australia. Notably, he also cofounded the Mercury Theatre in Auckland, New Zealand.

His wife, the actress Barbara Latham, who he married in 1962, died earlier this year. Survivors include his children Sam, who works as a director of photography, and Kate, who has worked as an artist and a teacher.

Born 24 March 1939
Died 16 August 2022
Izin Akhabau

My View

Kate Maltby



All change as a new power circle forms

As Liz Truss begins her premiership, the access hierarchy reshuffles

In one of my favourite episodes of the American political comedy *Veep*, a newly fired political adviser tries to get a job with a lobbyist. All of Washington, DC knows that he's been unceremoniously sacked from the White House – nonetheless, to make a living, he needs to show that he still rubs shoulders with power-brokers.

So in one of the most deliciously excruciating job interviews ever written for TV comedy, he picks up his phone to show his prospective employer that he can get anyone in the President's office to take his calls. What we as TV viewers know is that all he hears from his former colleagues is a string of insults – but it doesn't matter. The lobbyist has seen that his call is picked up. He gets the job.

Westminster may not be DC's Beltway, but here as there, access is currency. Watch the announcements trickling out of Downing Street during the past two days, and you'll have seen a new circle form at the heart of power.

For many seasoned observers, the appointments of advisers and officials to Liz Truss's Downing Street were at least as interesting as the news of who was to form her Cabinet. As you might expect, some of these are people who've worked with Truss for years – the ferociously bright Ruth Porter, Deputy Chief of Staff; the well-liked Sophie Jarvis, now her political secretary. Both have strong links to the ultra-libertarian Institute of Economic Affairs; for some baffling reason, the left seems to think this is a surprise or a conspiracy.

Truss has spent her entire political career as a revolutionary libertarian (including, in her own way, her time under the Lib Dem flag). Naturally, she has drawn some of her closest political advisers from those who speak the same language.

For those of us who worried that she spent most of her leadership campaign aping the most Trumpish aspects of Boris Johnson's regime, this is all something of a reassuring return to Team Truss as normal.

In her first two days in office, Truss has already begun to pivot away from the populism that saw her repeatedly minimise Boris Johnson's ethical travesties.

On entering Downing Street, she promised to pay tribute to her predecessor, as is traditional.

But addressing the nation, she affirmed that history would find Johnson merely “consequential” – a statement of fact, because naturally



Liz Truss's appointment of advisers and officials to Downing Street was as interesting as who was to form her new Cabinet
ANDREW PARSONS

his regime had “consequences”, and a long cry from her declaration that he had been “admired from Kyiv to Carlisle” when specifically addressing the party faithful only a day earlier.

Meanwhile, in policy terms, she has overturned the ban on fracking; kicked the ill-drafted Bill of Rights into the long grass; and unveiled plans to tackle the energy crisis without raising taxes.

Love it or hate it, all this points to the old Truss, a conviction politician with a central political project, not the short-term opportunist with a leadership campaign to win.

Of course, this pivot is yet

The nation is their blank slate, a world to be rebuilt according to a long held political ideology

another part of the traditional political cycle that accompanies any change of leader. There's the courting of the base, the ritual affirmations of a political party's shibboleths, and the vicious attacks on party rivals. Then, in power, there's a shift. Sometimes there's a shift to the centre, sometimes simply a shift back to a candidate's previous principles.

Few things are as central to this political routine as the consolidation of a new inner circle – and with it, that new scramble for access.

Smart lobby journalists have been cultivating sources close to Truss for months, if not years; half the tension in Westminster on Monday and Tuesday over the delayed announcement of who'd landed which Downing Street jobs seemed to emanate from wondering which of their contacts was going to have the closest office to the PM.

The *Guido Fawkes* website stole a march on all of them.

When asked for a list of Downing Street appointments, a Truss spokesperson simply referred them to the leaked list on the Fawkes

website. That's access, there and then. And why not? We all get a thrill from proximity to power.

And this is more than a thrill. For journalists, access matters – and we all use it, even if good journalists also work hard to avoid being captured by it.

For everyone, access to Downing Street offers the chance of patronage on a scale almost unimaginable anywhere else.

The list of peerages conferred by an outgoing Boris Johnson arrives soon, just a few days after he was criticised for advancing a supportive journalist, the writer Harry Mount, to the House of Lords commission that vets such lists.

No wonder people work hard to make sure they've got someone in Downing Street on speed-dial.

This is Year Zero in a new tussle for access. For the new team in Downing Street, however, it's a different type of Year Zero.

For those who have long dreamed of this moment, the opening months of Prime Minister Truss's regime will have been planned out months in advance.

The nation is their blank slate, a world to be rebuilt according to a long held political ideology – and there is a strategic game plan.

Almost all Prime Ministers and their teams – those who are more than opportunistic pragmatists – think like this. To adapt an old cliché, this is Day One of the rest of their lives.

For the rest of us, however, this isn't Year Zero. It's just another year – another crisis in our series of crises.

And perhaps the tragedy that awaits the Truss premiership is the one that hits all premierships. It's the moment at which a political family's shared sense of destiny is subsumed entirely by the desperation simply to stay on top of the latest crisis.

For a premiership that inherited an energy crisis on Day One, that moment seems to be early. But at least they're in this together. The rest of us in Westminster must be satisfied by bombarding phones, and hoping someone picks up.

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Your View

Tweets, emails and letters to:
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Truss will push UK into ruin

Prime Minister Liz Truss's plan to subsidise every home and business by borrowing over £100bn will leave the UK with a monumental debt burden.

For her solution to the energy cost crisis she has a mandate from 81,000 Conservative Party members. However, economic analysts and most people can see that borrowing is not the answer as servicing the debt will impact everybody in the UK for decades.

The PM's dogmatic refusal to put in place an emergency tax on excessive energy profits is going to lead this country into financial ruin.

GRAHAM MAIN
STOKE-ON-TRENT,
STAFFORDSHIRE

Please could someone clarify my simplistic understanding? The Government will cap energy bills, costing the taxpayer.

The energy companies are making billions which they might invest but will certainly pass on to shareholders. So the taxpayers are lining the pockets of shareholders?

Are these the same people who will benefit from tax cuts?

JUDY BAILEY
CORSE, GLOUCESTER

You don't have to be an expert

Like Kiran Sidhu ("I'm fine being an amateur classical fan", **i**, 7 September), I too regard Classic FM as a guilty pleasure, but her piece made me think more broadly about "experts" in the arts.

As an English teacher I

was reluctant to give my students the impression that a poem was some sort of puzzle that needed to be "solved".

Similarly, with abstract art and the question, "But what does it mean?" Both approaches suggest that there are short cuts to understanding, but the truth is, there's no Googling an explanation for one's personal response to a piece of music, or a work of art.

DAVID HUGHES
BATH, SOMERSET

Kiran Sidhu's article on enjoying classical music without understanding how it was created, makes me feel less guilty when Elgar's "Nimrod" brings tears to my eyes.

PETER PARKINS
BENTHAM, LANCASTER

How true, Kiran Sidhu, that classical (or any)

music just needs listeners, not experts, to appreciate it.

Over 40 years of teaching music, I lost count of the number of parents who "apologised" for "not being musical". We are all musical, it's just (if you'll pardon me) a sliding scale.

We can all kick a football, but we don't all get paid obscene amounts for doing so.
DAVID WOODGATES
PILLEY, HAMPSHIRE

What happened to planning?

Now that it's bucketing down with rain all over the UK we can expect the topic of droughts, empty reservoirs and water supply problems to disappear from our TV screens, social media and newspapers, just as it does every year after a long, dry, hot summer.

It is sad and immoral that the short-termism of successive Tory governments and the privatised water companies means that the problem is not addressed at all.

Whatever happened to long-term planning for the good of the people?
ROB BARRATT
LAUNCESTON,
CORNWALL

Don't scare off investment

No one wants to frighten foreign investment or indeed encourage British firms to go overseas – which would happen if windfall taxes were an annual government strategy.
RICHARD POST
WARWICKSHIRE



Classical music, or any genre for that matter, doesn't require listeners to be experts to enjoy it GETTY

High energy bill will hurt NHS

Listening to the concerns of businesses and how their very existence is threatened by the high cost of energy, what about the NHS?

How can it maintain any kind of service if it has to pay these extortionate charges for energy use?

Already under severe pressure, I dread to think what will happen when these bills start landing.
SYLVIA BRIDGLAND
STROUD,
GLOUCESTERSHIRE

She was Bloody Mary for reason

While reading Esther Walker's column, "How the English Civil War can enlighten our politics" (**i**, 7 September), she mentions life was "reasonably harmonious", given the

amount of religious tolerance during Tudor times.

The leading Protestant bishops, and hundreds of ordinary citizens who were burned at the stake during Mary I's reign may well disagree. She was known as Bloody Mary for a reason.
ROGER KENNEDY
PETERBOROUGH,
CAMBRIDGESHIRE

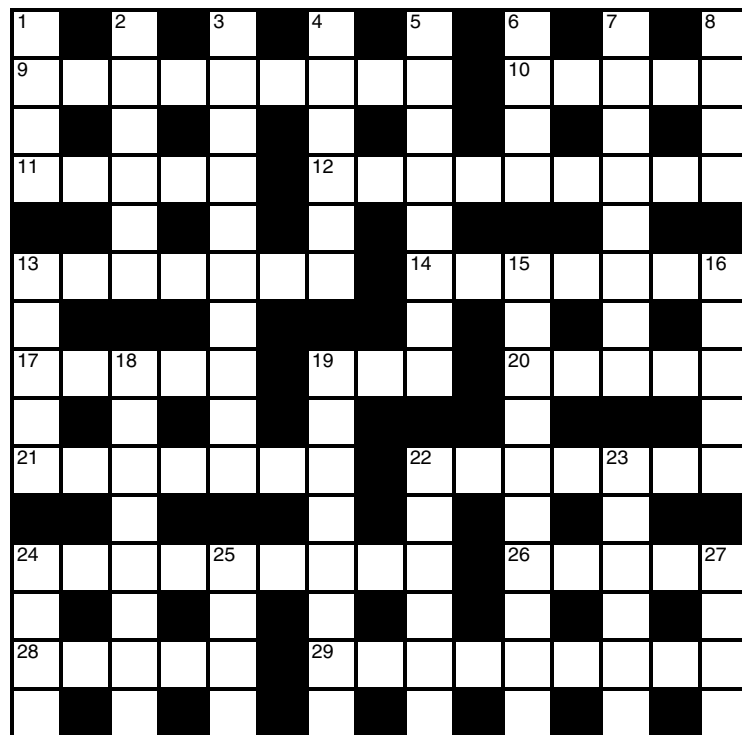
Right for PMs to travel apart

Whilst we agree with Keith Hatfield (**i**, 8 September) that we are being urged to conserve energy, there are clear and overriding reasons why an outgoing and an incoming PM should not travel to Balmoral on the same flight. In this instance these outweigh the need to be green.
DAVID BASS AND PRISCILLA WALKER
FAVERSHAM, KENT

CRYPTIC CROSSWORD No 3616 BY TEES

ACROSS

- 9 Stronghold with excellent fencing or one with better grounds (1,8)
- 10 King had this made afresh with Republican input (5)
- 11 Animal in elevated position heard female (5)
- 12 Royal servant's third little piggy? (9)
- 13 Remove sin from learner Seneca corrupted (7)
- 14 Grow weak after the first severe pain (7)
- 17 Perhaps bitter about performing solo (5)
- 19 Diamonds set evenly in circlet (3)
- 20 Gangster's existential anxiety (5)
- 21 Damaging allegations about gallery took new form (7)
- 22 Worked out as French duke in action (7)
- 24 Star, confined, gaining little weight (9)
- 26 Home and Away is diversion going to pot (2-3)
- 28 Flower for all to see among many (5)
- 29 Customers given two keys allowed man back inside (9)



DOWN

- 1 Enjoys hot dish (4)
- 2 Era in which Oriental individual embraces church (6)
- 3 Soldiers in disgrace or laudable exploit (10)
- 4 Stand-in showing twice the spirit? (6)
- 5 One carpet under pound? It's free! (8)
- 6 Unemployed daughter visits French island (4)
- 7 Young bird settling snugly (8)
- 8 Muslim ruler wants Ancient Mariner's tale written up (4)
- 13 Damage follows cold spell (5)
- 15 Super-soft one getting tickled? (5,5)
- 16 Horrible death not exactly cherished (5)
- 18 Repeated phrase, from Taoist, on Reformation? (8)
- 19 Not being straight in dreadful court (8)
- 22 Murder mother for the estate? (6)
- 23 Someone's skin fool keeps in cupboard (6)
- 24 Money taken from chapel funds (4)
- 25 Laos in rebellion too? (4)
- 27 Armada almost making escape (4)

Solution to yesterday's Cryptic



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IN MONDAY'S

ARTS
Frozen Planet II
David Attenborough back in pole position



Stuck on the cryptic crossword? For today's solutions, call **0905 789 3580**. Calls cost 80p per minute plus your network access charge. If you are having trouble accessing this number, please call our helpdesk on 0333 202 3390.

Full terms and conditions can be found on page 33



John Lewis aims to persuade shoppers to spend more on everyday items
REUTERS

John Lewis focusing marketing on ‘moments’

CONSUMER

**Cat Rutter
Pooley**



John Lewis has, more or less, called the end of the “experience economy”. This is a big deal, according to the retailer: “a profound and exciting shift”. In its place we have the “moments economy”, and John Lewis – middle England’s middling retail home – is determined to be the “world’s first moments-based retailer”.

This is obvious marketing guff. But get past that and there may be the kernel of a sensible strategy.

You might not have noticed you were living in the experience economy. But that’s broadly the theme of the millennial era: that what consumers have sought out is

experiences to go alongside their goods and services. The shift has gone hand in hand with the rise of Instagram and is not going away.

But John Lewis’s pitch is that while the noughties meant spending on events like big holidays and festivals, shoppers are now “looking to bring that same joy to all the moments of our lives” – and will want to spend more on everyday things to make that happen.

This is in part about John Lewis needing to find a new slogan after jettisoning its “never knowingly undersold” price promise earlier this year. The pledge was increasingly meaningless, because it excluded own brand goods and online-only retailers, and expensive, as high street rivals turned to discounting to keep shoppers coming in and John Lewis was forced to match them.

But it is also about retailers needing to find a new model. The experience economy has not been kind to the high street. Optimism that shops could reinvent themselves as experience hubs has not been enough to offset the high property costs.

The “moments economy” might be better summed up as an opportunity to sell consumers more small stuff more often. John Lewis has already acknowledged that it isn’t enough just to be there for life’s big moments. That was one implication of the target announced in 2020 to diversify further into areas including housing and financial services, where it wants to generate 40 per cent of profits by the end of the decade.

The fact that John Lewis isn’t abandoning that strategy indicates the rise of the “moments economy” isn’t as much of a moment as John Lewis is making it out to be. But it is still an opportunity.

At a time when UK consumers are likely to cut back on big-ticket

items, focusing on capturing more small spending makes sense. It is an extension of the lipstick principle, the thesis that consumers tend to look for affordable treats when the going is too tough to splurge. That is doubly true given the decades-long fall in home ownership rates. The rental generation is less likely to commit to large outlays on furniture that may not fit when they move to a new place in 12 months’ time.

The partial reversal of the pandemic-era shift to online shopping is also in John Lewis’s favour. Companies such as Shopify, which bet big on a generation-defining change, are no longer ascendant. Years of declining profits even before the pandemic mean John Lewis has already been forced to do the hard work of shutting stores and stabilising its finances (though there could always be more to come). It now has the mass-market department store market almost entirely to itself.

The partnership’s retail proposition is already improving. Its app, website and stores are all getting better. But the jury is still out on its main answer to the

ecommerce challenge to date: a greater focus on own brand goods and a new budget “Anyday” range.

The risk it takes is that it offers quality that is no better than budget retailers like Ikea but at higher prices. It may also lower its market standing in the process – and expose itself to fierce homewares competition from the likes of Dunelm and Wilko.

Interim results next week will provide more detail, but there are already indications on the Waitrose side of the group that the revamp is not panning out quite as planned. The grocer has lost sales and market share while rival M&S’s food offering appears to be resurgent.

There is probably no such thing as a moments economy. Shopping more for everyday moments sits awkwardly with the sustainability ethos of the group. But that almost doesn’t matter as long as the concept of the moments economy provides a rationale for the business to rally around and refocus.

ARTICLE REPUBLISHED FROM
THE FINANCIAL TIMES

**The
experience
economy has
not been kind to
the high street**

I'm radical and proud of it – thanks to being a mum

SOCIETY

Nell Frizzell



A big jangly set of keys, flat boots, carrying snacks in your coat pocket, saying “just give me a minute”, knowing the names of at least three dinosaurs, dry hands; when I think of what characterises a parent, these are what springs to mind. Being anti-abortion, homophobic and against casual sex do not, I have to say, come into it.

And yet, a new study, published in the Proceedings of the Royal Society B, seems to indicate that becoming a parent makes people more inclined towards conservative views. Researchers found that, “because socially conservative values ostensibly prioritise safety, stability and family values, we hypothesised that being more invested in parental care might make socially conservative policies more appealing.”

They asked a range of participants – some of whom were parents and some not – to either look at pictures of babies and young children, and then fill out an online survey about social conservatism. The control groups were shown pictures of household objects and asked questions about their morning routine, before filling out an online survey about social conservatism. And lo, those who



A survey asked responders to look at pictures of babies before answering questions about social conservatism GETTY

had been staring into the doe-eyed faces of fussy little babies had a more ambivalent or negative attitude towards abortion, sex work, homosexuality etc, than those who had been chatting about the Hoovering.

Now, far be it from me – a flat-booted, key-jangling, snack-

dispensing mother – to pick holes in the work of trained, professional scientists. But it does strike me as rather a stretch to make a claim for greater social conservatism based on such a narrow definition.

I would argue – based on a grand experimental sample size of one – that having a child can actually

make you far more radical in your attitude to major issues, such as the climate emergency, social injustice and healthcare, because you literally fear for the future of your children.

I have been on as many marches, attended more group meetings and invested more in my community

A large part of being a parent is being pressed up against social deprivation

since having a child than I ever did before.

It would be interesting to design a similar study to see how participants who had just spent half an hour watching baby videos would respond to questions about, say, short-haul flights, sexual discrimination at work, sexual equality and racism. My instinct is that parenthood gives you, if anything, a greater move towards compassion, concern and equality. Even if it's just temporary.

A large part of being a parent, particularly in a country like the UK, is being pressed up against social deprivation, perhaps for the first time. You will be confronted by the unaffordability of childcare, the hobbling of the NHS by at least a decade of ideological underfunding, the need for green space, gender inequality in the workplace and the cost of living. Perhaps those things make some of us swing towards selfishness, greed and old-fashioned morality; but for others, the movement is in the other direction.

I have never been so desperate to overthrow a vile, selfish and incompetent Conservative government than I am today. And if my son wants to help me? Well, I'll just make sure I bring snacks.

Nell Frizzell is a journalist and author of 'The Panic Years' and 'Square One'

Rogue cast's real-time rifts top psychological thriller's twists

CELEBRITY

Kuba Shand-Baptiste



You just can't look away from the drama around *Don't Worry Darling*, a psychological thriller directed by Olivia Wilde and starring Florence Pugh, Harry Styles and Chris Pine. The memes have gone wild. The cast has gone rogue. And in the background, mixed reviews have threatened to overshadow a project that once seemed poised for huge praise.

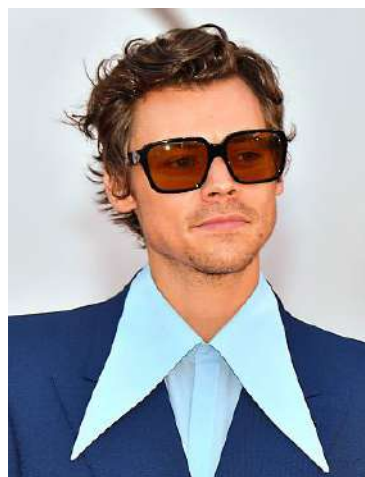
Don't Worry Darling has been touted as a feminist film “for

the Time's Up era”, in which the men “don't come” and the “disenfranchised world of white men on the internet” is picked apart.

Since then, Wilde – known for her fresh, feminist directing style – has been explaining her approach to “female pleasure” in the film.

Earlier casting placed Shia LaBeouf, since sued for sexual battery by his ex-partner FKA Twigs, in the lead role, which Styles later took over. In an interview with *Variety* this year, Wilde suggested LaBeouf had been fired as a result of her desire to make sure Pugh felt “safe” and “supported” on set, given the “very vulnerable situations” she'd be in, as well as protecting the rest of the cast and crew from LaBeouf's “combative” process.

Not long after, LaBeouf said he'd quit the film and alleged that, after his departure, Wilde had been in touch asking him to remain on the project. In a video of Wilde sent by LaBeouf to *Variety* in response to Wilde's interview, the director said



Harry Styles appeared to ignore the director of 'Don't Worry Darling'

To some, the fallout is evidence of a wider anti-feminist agenda

that she wasn't “ready to give up on this yet”.

From this, people deduced that Pugh may have been thrown under the bus by the director and that Wilde's earlier proclamation that she'd protected the actor may have been false, a theory bolstered by rumours that Pugh had for some time felt conflicted about promoting the film.

Against this backdrop was the news that Wilde and Styles were dating following her split from *Ted Lasso* star Jason Sudeikis. The internet went into a frenzy, maligning Wilde for somehow betraying her ex.

Then came the Venice Film Festival press run, in which Styles and Wilde appeared to be ignoring each other entirely. Pine appeared distant and bored; Pugh showed up late and, finally, that much-disputed clip of Styles apparently “spitting” on Pine at the festival dropped.

To some, the fallout is evidence of a wider anti-feminist agenda against the director. It's true

that male directors – white, male directors especially – garner more respect. We tend not to blame them as much when things in their professional and personal lives go askew. But if, say, Judd Apatow, had recently broken up with Leslie Mann and hooked up with a younger pop star – who was cast as a star in his next film – the gossip would be the same.

That's just the nature of celebrity. Whether because it piques our curiosity because of underlying and overt biases, or plain old nosiness, frenzies on this scale make us all want to watch the ordinarily exclusive inner workings of Hollywood crash and burn in real-time.

Sometimes, unfortunately, that means serious conversations are glossed over. But I don't think general excitement over the situation is inherently sexist. In truth, we'll probably never know what happened behind the scenes of this film. But, man, speculating has been a lot of fun.

HISTORY

Suffragette's rooftop protest makes a model investment

By Lucinda Cameron

A model replica of a suffragette's 1909 rooftop protest has been acquired by the library where it took place.

Alice Paul, an American women's rights activist, climbed on to the roof of St Andrew's Halls in Glasgow, whose facade is now part of the

Mitchell Library, on 19 August that year and hid overnight.

The 24-year-old planned to disrupt a political speech the following day by Lord Crewe, leader of the House of Lords, but was discovered before she could do so.

Rebecca Otto, a US writer, commissioned the Glasgow-based model

maker Franki Finch to make models of St Andrew's Halls and the Mitchell Library as they looked then to help visualise Ms Paul's movements.

Ms Finch also made a second model, which has been donated to Glasgow Museums collections, part of the Glasgow Life charity.

Susan Taylor, special collections

librarian with Glasgow Life, said: "This model is a welcome addition to Glasgow's suffrage movement collection. It helps to bring hidden stories about the movement to life."

Although Ms Paul's attempt to disrupt Lord Crewe's address was thwarted, her rooftop vigil made headlines and she and others caused

a major disturbance that day in 1909. St Andrew's Halls was a large concert auditorium, built in 1877, which was almost destroyed by fire in 1962.

The Mitchell Library was built on the eastern half of the block between 1907 and 1911.

Ms Finch produced a 1:375 scale model of both buildings.

ART

Technology reveals artist's discarded backdrop for tranquil 'Milkmaid'

By Aleksandar Furtula
and Raf Casert

Advanced scanning carried out on the Dutch artist Johannes Vermeer's Baroque masterpiece *The Milkmaid* has revealed new insights about his painting techniques.

In an unprecedented exhibit starting in February, the Rijksmuseum in Amsterdam will bring together 27 of the 35 known paintings by the 17th-century artist, who had the uncanny genius of letting a soothing inner light exude from his canvases.

The exhibition, including iconic works *The Milkmaid* and *Girl with a Pearl Earring*, will be the first time since 1996 that the paintings will be united in the same building.

The Rijksmuseum carried out extensive studies of *The Milkmaid* and discovered that the vast, unadorned wall behind the eponymous figure was not always meant to be like that.

Using special technologies, a sketch beneath the final layer of paint was discovered, showing a more cluttered background with a jug holder and a fire basket. Vermeer thought better of it and went for the distinctive white background, auguring a big development in art.

"We now see a very neat little cube," said Taco Dibbits, the museum's director-general. "A search for simplicity is very difficult to arrive at... [It is what] we now still admire so much today. His paintings radiate this simplicity, the stillness, his brilliant colours."



Taco Dibbits (right) looks at a projection of hidden detail in 'The Milkmaid' by Vermeer KENZO TRIBOUILLARD/AFP/GETTY

Mr Dibbits called Vermeer one of the world's greatest painters because of this "tranquillity that his paintings radiate", adding: "On the one hand, you step into the 17th century. On the other hand, because this depicts everyday life, they're incredibly modern."

New York's Frick Collection will lend its three Vermeers. It will be the first time they are shown together outside the city since the museum acquired them. The paintings could leave New York only because the Frick is under renovation, making it a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity.

i Vermeer (1632-1675) was a moderately successful artists during his lifetime but produced few paintings and was not wealthy, leaving his wife and children in debt at his death.

CULTURE

UK Eurovision entry will not face public vote

By Naomi Clarke

The UK entry for the 2023 Eurovision Song Contest will be chosen in collaboration with the global music management company that helped to select Sam Ryder for this year's competition, the BBC has confirmed.

The broadcaster will again work with TaP Music – which counts Lana Del Rey, Ellie Goulding and London Grammar among its clients – to select a song and act to represent the UK when it hosts the event next year.

Ryder (*inset*) came second behind Ukraine's Kalush Orchestra in this year's competition in Italy, with his uplifting pop song "Space-Man", giving the UK its best result in 20 years.

The British singer-songwriter has continued to enjoy success since, with the track charting worldwide and performance at a number of high-profile events.

Earlier this year, the European Broadcasting Union (EBU) decided Eurovision 2023 cannot be held in Ukraine, despite its win, because of the ongoing invasion by Russia.

As Ryder was runner-up, the EBU ruled that the UK will host the contest on Ukraine's behalf next year, and seven cities – Birmingham, Glasgow, Leeds, Liverpool, Manchester, Newcastle and Sheffield – have been shortlisted to stage the event.



HERITAGE

Restored lido set to reopen after 38 years

By Tess de la Mare

Restoration work on the UK's oldest lido is almost complete.

Cleveland Pools in Bath has been restored to its former glory following an 18-year fundraising campaign.

Tomorrow, 100 competition winners will enjoy a swim in the as-yet unheated water, before it opens to the public next year as a heated pool.

The lido was built in 1815 and was a popular swimming spot for 169 years until the competition of an indoor leisure centre newly built nearby led to its closure in 1984.



Final checks are done at Cleveland Pools in Bath BEN BIRCHALL/PA

For a while the site was used as a trout farm but in 2003 the lido was threatened with demolition when

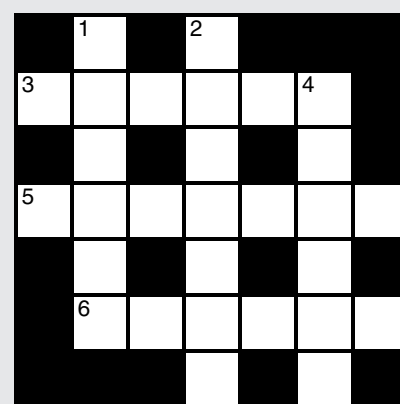
Bath and North East Somerset Council put it up for sale as it was deemed too expensive to repair.

But three locals, Ann Dunlop, Janice Dreisbach and Roger Houghton, set up the Cleveland Pools Trust, and over the course of 18 years raised £9.3m to restore the site.

The trust received £6.47m from the National Lottery Heritage Fund, as well as support from the Department for Culture, Media and Sport, Historic England, and Bath and North East Somerset Council.

It now has Grade II* listed status, and is a site of national importance.

The Five-Clue Cryptic Crossword No 3680



Across

3/5 New York borough with no clues about British lawyer (6,7)

6 In goal to stop shot (6)

Down

1 Dismissed peacekeepers in disorderly retreat (3,3)

2 Rowing club rely on Communist uprising (7)

4 Unusual dates with unknown partner (6)

Solution, page 75





Picture of the week

Kayakers took part in a national inshore rescue competition in Hossegor, south-west France, on Wednesday. The area's oceanic coast features dangerous bathing conditions, given the concordance of various phenomena: swell, waves and strong currents, which are responsible for several drownings each year. PHILIPPE LOPEZ/AFP



Television Friday 9 September*

CRITIC'S CHOICE

GERARD GILBERT



*Today's programming may be replaced by rolling news coverage

PICK OF THE DAY

Mortimer & Whitehouse: Gone Fishing

9pm, BBC Two

There are familiar delights as Bob Mortimer and Paul Whitehouse (both left) pack their fishing gear and head off to new angling spots. They begin by fly-fishing for summer grilse (Atlantic salmon that has spent only one winter at sea) on the River Exe in Devon, in a spot that is, according to Bob, "so quiet you can hear a mouse put its hand in its handbag". For me, the best bits are their flights of fancy, as Bob's Mystic Wilf makes a reappearance, this time reading the pebbles beside the Bristol Channel as they try shore fishing. Further topics include vegan pasties, modern lightbulbs and elasticated waistbands.

Nicola Benedetti Plays Wynton Marsalis At The Proms

8pm, BBC Four

Violinist Nicola Benedetti takes to the stage at the Royal Albert Hall with a Proms premiere of a piece written for her by American jazz legend Wynton Marsalis – his "Violin Concerto". The programme also features Bernstein's kaleidoscopic "Symphonic Dances" from *West Side Story* and Britten's "Four Sea Interludes" from *Peter Grimes*.

Digging For Treasure: Tonight

9pm, Channel 5

This week, the team sets up camp near Fincham in Norfolk, hoping to find some Saxon and Viking artefacts from the great conquests

of England, as they work with local detectorists from the King's Lynn Metal Detecting Group.

Munich Games

9pm, Sky Atlantic

It's 2022 and a friendly football match has been arranged between an Israeli and a German team at Munich's Olympic stadium as a mark of peace and respect on the 50th anniversary of the terrorist massacre of Israeli athletes during the 1972 Munich Olympics. Just days before the game, however, Oren Simon (Yousef Sweid from *Baghdad Central*), a Mossad agent stationed in Berlin, intercepts ominous messages on the dark web. In this promising new subtitled geopolitical thriller, he is partnered with Lebanese-born

German police officer Maria Kohler (Seyneb Saleh) to thwart any attack.

Martin Compston's Scottish Fling

9.30pm, BBC Two

Shown on BBC Scotland on Thursday, *Line of Duty* star Martin Compston and his friend, the TV presenter and actor Phil MacHugh, set off across Scotland in a VW camper van to discover "what makes the nation tick today". Well, yes, up to a point, but don't expect Simon Reeve-level insights. The duo hook up with *Drag Race UK* winner Lawrence Chaney for a round of crazy golf near Compston's home town of Greenock, consume (or not in Compston's case) oysters at Scotland's only Michelin green star

Daytime	6.00 Breakfast (S). 9.15 Morning Live (S). 10.00 Maximum Security (S). 10.45 Claimed And Shamed (S). 11.15 Homes Under The Hammer (R) (S). 12.15 Bargain Hunt (S). 1.00 BBC News At One; Weather (S). 1.30 BBC Regional News; Weather (S). 1.45 Doctors (S). 2.15 Money For Nothing (S). 3.00 Escape To The Country (R) (S). 3.45 Garden Rescue (R) (S). 4.30 The Bidding Room (S). 5.15 Pointless (R) (S).	6.30 Escape To The Country (R) (S). 7.15 The Bidding Room (R) (S). 8.00 Sign Zone: The Repair Shop (R) (S). 9.00 BBC News (S). 10.00 BBC News (S). 12.15 Politics Live (S). 1.00 Chase The Case (R) (S). 1.45 Eggheads (R) (S). 2.15 FILM: The Remains Of The Day (James Ivory 1993) Period drama, starring Anthony Hopkins and Emma Thompson (S). 4.25 Jungle Animal Hospital: Natural World (R) (S). 4.30 Wanted: A Simple Life (R) (S). 5.15 Flog It! (R) (S).	6.00 Good Morning Britain (S). 9.00 Lorraine (S). 10.00 This Morning (S). 12.30 Loose Women (S). 1.30 ITV News; Weather (S). 1.55 ITV Regional News; Weather (S). 2.00 Dickinson's Real Deal (R) (S). 3.00 Tenable (R) (S). 3.59 ITV Regional Weather (S). 4.00 Tipping Point (S). 5.00 The Chase (S).	6.10 Countdown (R) (S). 6.50 3rd Rock From The Sun (R) (S). 7.15 3rd Rock From The Sun (R) (S). 7.40 Everybody Loves Raymond (R) (S). 8.05 Everybody Loves Raymond (R) (S). 8.30 Everybody Loves Raymond (R) (S). 9.00 Frasier (R) (S). 9.30 Frasier (R) (S). 10.00 Frasier (R) (S). 10.30 Ramsay's Kitchen Nightmares USA (R) (S). 11.25 Channel 4 News Summary (S). 11.30 The Great House Giveaway (R) (S). 12.30 Steph's Packed Lunch (S). 2.10 Countdown (S). 3.00 A Place In The Sun (R) (S). 4.00 Chateau DIY (S). 5.00 Moneybags (S).	6.00 Milkshake! 9.15 Jeremy Vine (S). 12.45 Holiday Homes In The Sun (S). 1.40 5 News At Lunchtime (S). 1.45 Home And Away (S). 2.15 FILM: A Mother's Terror (Jeff Hare 2021) Premiere. Thriller, starring Jessica Morris (S). 4.00 Bargain-Loving Brits In The Sun (R) (S). 5.00 5 News At 5 (S).			6.00 World's Funniest Videos (S). 6.25 World's Funniest Videos (S). 7.00 Love Bites (S). 8.00 Dress To Impress (S). 9.00 Veronica Mars (S). 10.00 One Tree Hill (S). 11.00 Hart Of Dixie (S). 12.00 Supermarket Sweep (S). 1.00 Family Fortunes (S). 2.00 The Masked Singer US (S). 3.05 Veronica Mars (S). 4.00 One Tree Hill (S). 5.00 Hart Of Dixie (S).
6pm	6.00 BBC News At Six; Weather (S). 6.30 BBC Regional News; Weather (S).	6.00 Richard Osman's House Of Games (S). 6.30 Unbeatable Hosted by Jason Manford (S).	6.00 ITV Regional News; Weather (S). 6.30 ITV News; Weather (S).	6.00 The Simpsons (R) (S). 6.30 Hollyoaks Sienna puts in motion her plan to ruin Warren's life (R) (S).	6.00 Cash In The Attic Helping a couple in Cornwall (S). 6.55 5 News Update (S).			6.00 Celebrity Catchphrase With Oti Mabuse, Judy Murray and John Thomson (S).
7pm	7.00 The One Show (S). 7.30 Our Lives Documentary following the work of Patricia Page (S).	7.00 Cricket: Today At The Test England vs South Africa. Coverage from The Kia Oval (S).	7.30 Emmerdale Ethan tries to convince Naomi to do the right thing (S).	7.00 Channel 4 News (S).	7.00 Susan Calman's Grand Days Out In Cornwall (R) (S). 7.55 5 News Update (S).	7.00 Top Of The Pops (S). 7.30 Top Of The Pops Performances by Haddaway and Taylor Dayne (S).	6.55 FILM: Keeping Up With The Joneses (Greg Mottola 2016) Action comedy, starring Zach Galifianakis (S).	7.00 Superstore (S). 7.30 Superstore Amy travels to her childhood home to help her parents move (S).
8pm	8.00 Question Of Sport (S). 8.30 Celebrity MasterChef (S).	8.00 Gardeners' World The role gardeners can play in having a positive impact on wildlife (S).	8.30 Coronation Street Saira approaches Toyah in the street (S).	8.00 Hobby Man Chef Andi Oliver joins Alex Brooker on a trip around Yorkshire. Last in the series (S).	8.00 The Cotswolds & Beyond With Pam Ayres (S).	8.00 Nicola Benedetti Plays Wynton Marsalis At The Proms (S).		8.00 Bob's Burgers Tina finally gets to attend horse camp (S). 8.30 Bob's Burgers The kids play a prank (S).
9pm	9.00 Have I Got News For You (S). 9.30 Not Going Out Comedy, starring Lee Mack and Sally Bretton (R) (S).	9.00 Mortimer & Whitehouse: Gone Fishing (S). 9.30 Martin Compston's Scottish Fling New series (S).	9.30 The 1% Club Quiz, hosted by Lee Mack (R) (S).	9.00 Gogglebox New series. More recent television shows are appraised (S).	9.00 Digging For Treasure: Tonight (S).		9.00 FILM: The Sum Of All Fears (Phil Alden Robinson 2002) Action thriller, starring Ben Affleck (S).	9.00 FILM: The Fast And The Furious (Rob Cohen 2001) Thriller, starring Vin Diesel and Paul Walker (S).
10pm	10.00 BBC News 10.30 BBC Regional News 10.40 FILM: Pirates Of The Caribbean: Salazar's Revenge (S).	10.00 Live At The Apollo With Jen Brister, Esther Manito and Adam Rowe (R) (S). 10.30 Newsnight (S).	10.25 ITV News; Weather (S). 10.55 ITV Regional News; Weather (S).	10.00 The Last Leg With guests Richard Ayoade and Aisling Bea (S).	10.00 FILM: The Enforcer (James Fargo 1976) Crime thriller sequel, starring Clint Eastwood (S).	10.10 The Pretenders: Radio 2 Live At Home (S). 10.40 Arena: Alone With Chrissie Hynde (S).		
11pm		11.05 MOTDx Football discussion (S). 11.35 Stewart Lee: Snowflake (R) (S).	11.10 The NFL Show Including action from Buffalo Bills vs Los Angeles Rams (S).	11.05 8 Out Of 10 Cats Does Countdown Jimmy Carr hosts the comedy panel show (R) (S).	11.55 Clint Eastwood: The Man & The Movies A profile of the Oscar-winning actor and director (R) (S).		11.20 FILM: True History Of The Kelly Gang (Justin Kurzel 2019) Drama, starring George MacKay (S).	11.15 Family Guy Peter and Quagmire form a singer-songwriter partnership (S). 11.45 Family Guy (S).
Late	12.45 BBC News (S).	12.35 Surviving 9/11 (R) (S). 2.05 Sign Zone: The Energy Crisis: Who's Cashing In? – Panorama (R) (S). 2.35 This Is BBC Two (S).	12.10 Shop: Ideal World 3.00 Save Money: Lose Weight (R) (S). 3.25 Save Money: Lose Weight (R) (S). 3.50 Unwind With ITV (S). 5.05 Katie Piper's Breakfast Show (R) (S).	12.10 One Night In London Zoo (R) (S). 1.05 Ramy (S). 1.35 Ramy (S). 2.10 FILM: First Love (Takashi Miike 2019) (S). 4.00 Come Dine With Me (R) (S). 4.25 Come Dine With Me (R) (S). 4.55 Come Dine With Me (R) (S).	1.15 The Live Casino Show (S). 3.15 Entertainment News (S). 3.25 Britain's Favourite Biscuit (R) (S). 4.35 The Yorkshire Vet: Young Farmers Special (R) (S). 5.30 Peppa Pig (R) (S). 5.35 Paw Patrol (R) (S).	12.10 Totally British: 70s Rock 'n' Roll (S). 1.10 Totally British: 70s Rock 'n' Roll (S). 2.10 Top Of The Pops (S). 2.40 Top Of The Pops (S). 3.10 The Pretenders: Radio 2 Live At Home (S). 3.35 Close	1.55 FILM: Buried (Rodrigo Cortes 2010) Thriller, starring Ryan Reynolds (S). 3.50 Close	12.15 American Dad! (S). 12.40 American Dad! (S). 1.10 Bob's Burgers (S). 1.40 Bob's Burgers (S). 2.10 All American (S). 3.00 Teleshopping

Truffle fettuccine



SERVES 4

500g fresh fettuccine, or tagliatelle
100g unsalted butter
30g Marmite Truffle spread (or Truffle-flavoured umami spread)
100g parmesan, finely grated
10g chives, finely chopped

Bring a large pan of lightly salted water to boil. In preparation, add the butter and spread to a large frying pan. Cook the pasta until just done. Reserve a cup of pasta cooking water.

Drain the pasta and add to the frying pan. Add a splash of the reserved water and the parmesan. On a low heat, give everything a stir until the butter has melted and emulsified. Use more water if needed.

Serve in individual bowls with the chives sprinkled on top.

Recipe from Marmite

In Monday's i
Vegetable and tofu quiche



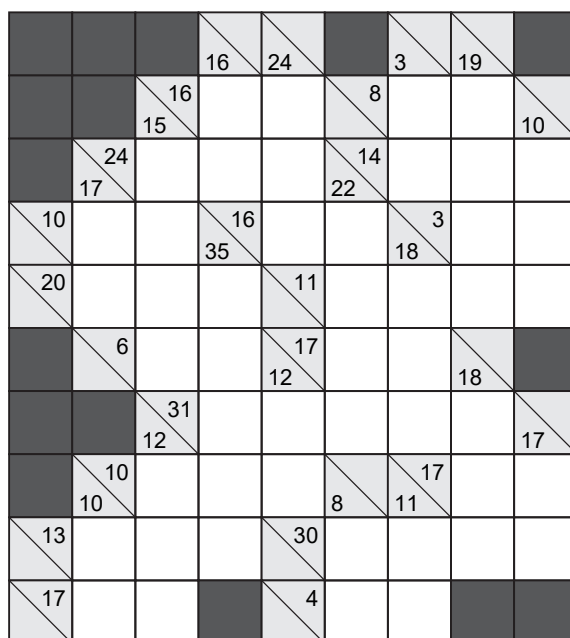
PUZZLES

*The country's
best barred crossword
every Saturday*

Games&Puzzles

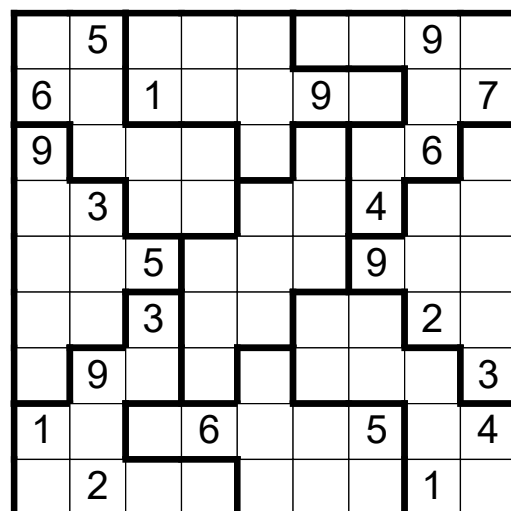
Kakuro

How to play Fill the white squares so that the total in each across or down run of cells matches the total at the start of that run. You must use the numbers from 1-9 only and cannot repeat a number in a run.



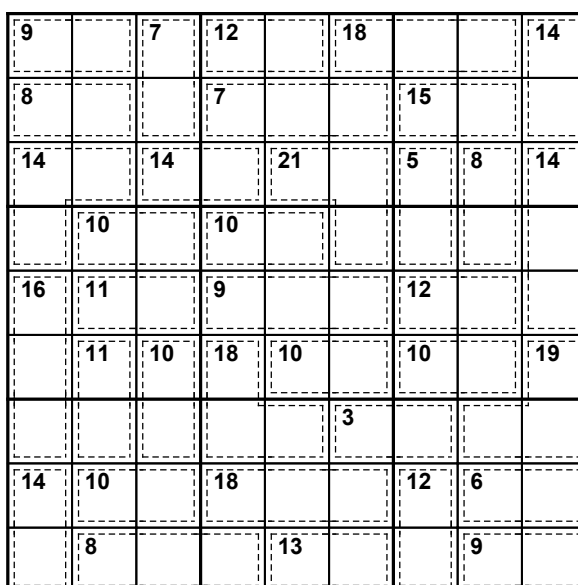
Jigsawdoku

How to play Place the numbers 1-9 once in each row, column and bold-lined jigsaw region.



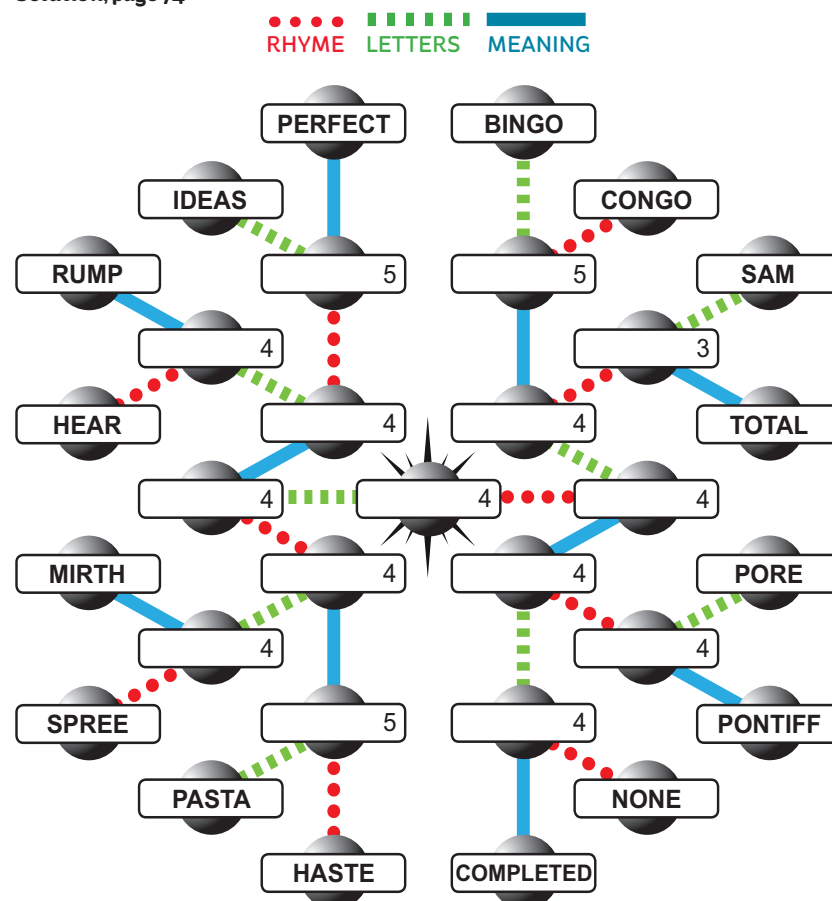
Killer Sudoku

How to play Each row, column and 3 by 3 box must contain each number (1 to 9) only once. The sum of all numbers contained in a dotted area must match the number printed in its top-left corner. No number can appear more than once in a dotted area.



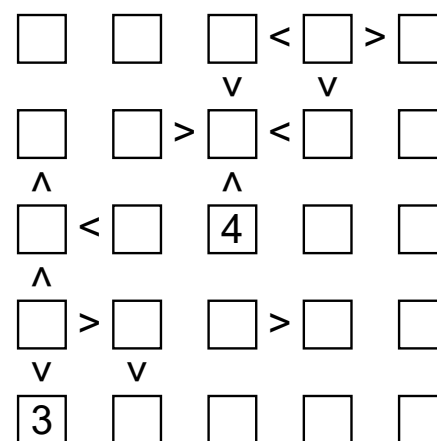
Zygolex® In i every day

Find the missing words by following the **RHYME**, **LETTERS** and **MEANING** links – eg, a word that **rhymes** with 'cheek', has one **letter** different from 'pear' and has the same **meaning** as mountain, would be 'peak'. Full rules at zygolex.com.
Solution, page 74



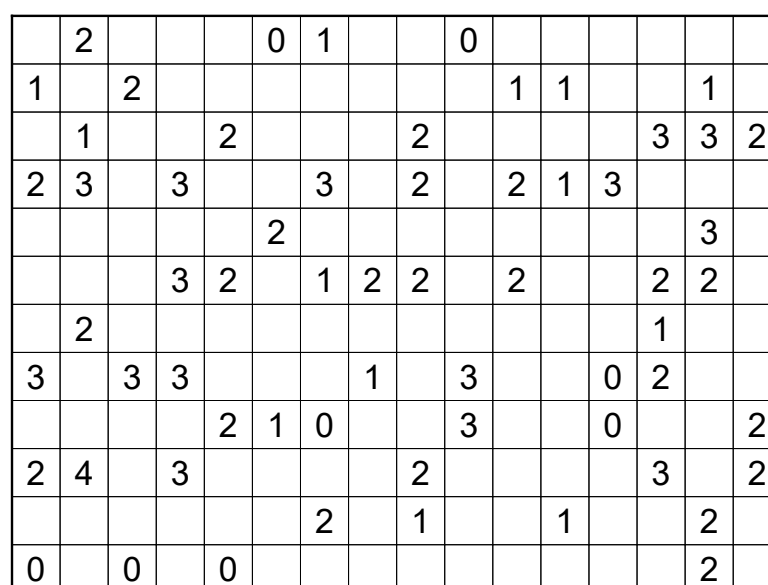
Futoshiki

How to play Place the numbers from 1-5 exactly once in each row and column. The greater than and less than signs ('>' and '<') indicate where one cell is greater/less than the adjacent cell indicated.



Minesweeper

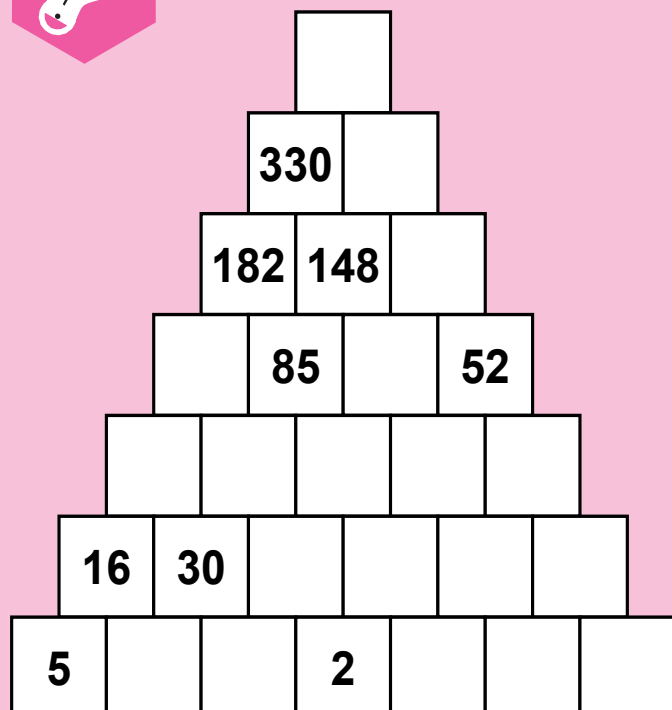
How to play Find all the mines in the grid. Numbers in certain squares indicate how many mines there are in the neighbouring squares, including diagonally touching squares. Mines cannot be placed in squares with numbers.



Children's Corner Number Tower



How to play The value of each square in the number pyramid is the sum of the two squares directly under it.



Knight's Tour

How to play A chess knight visits each square of the grid exactly once, starting at 1 and ending at 100 (these squares are shaded). Deduce the whole path of the knight - some of which is already given - and thus complete the grid. The knight moves either two squares horizontally followed by one square vertically, or two squares vertically followed by one square horizontally.

		94	43	16			47		19
		15		93			20	63	
24							1		
	100	41	90	61	98	45			64
		80	97				71	4	
35			40			87	68	65	50
	11		77		85	70			
		29	82		58				
	27	32	37				53		73
		9		57		7	74	55	

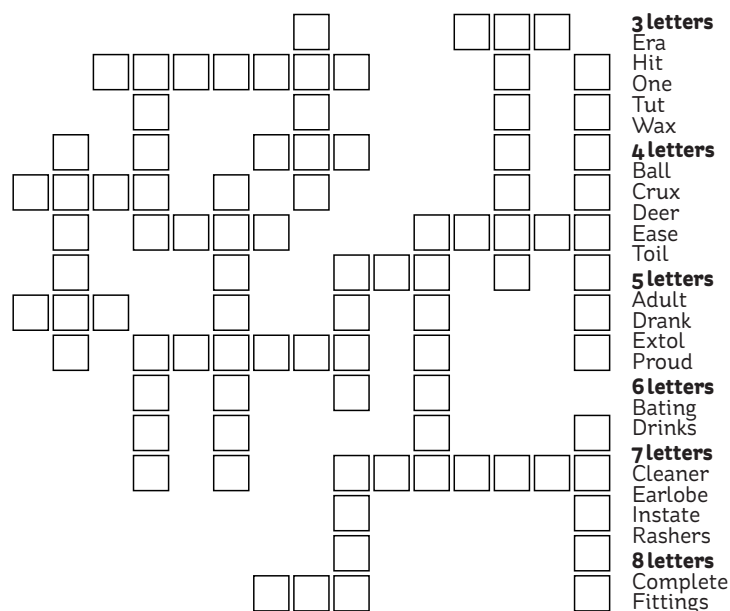
Rectangles

How to play Divide the grid into a series of rectangles or squares, such that every cell in the grid is in exactly one region. Numbers indicate the size of each region: for instance a “7” in a cell means that cell is part of a region that contains seven cells in total. There is only one number in each region.

		12				3		2
3								
							3	2
				18		2		
2			3				3	
	3						3	
			4					
3		6			20			
	4							4

Word Fit

How to play Can you fit all the words into the grid to complete the puzzle? Some words may initially fit in more than one place, but there is only one way to fit all the words together to complete the grid.



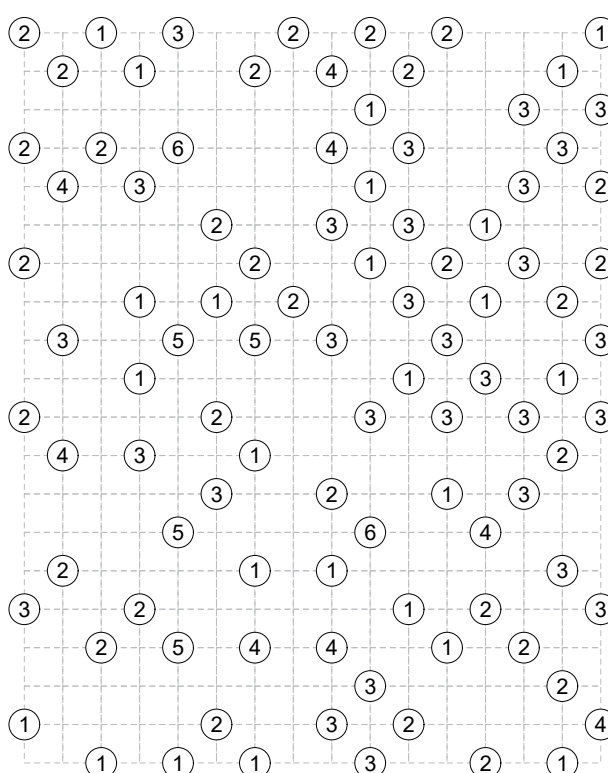
Word Square

How to play Simply answer the clues alongside the grid, writing the answers in the respective rows. The solution must read the same horizontally in each row as it does vertically in each column.

				Jar lids
				Capital of Norway
				Earnest appeal
				Immerse in liquid

Bridges

How to play Connect every island (represented by circles) into a single interconnected group. To do this draw bridges between islands. The number in each circle states how many bridges must be connected to that island. Bridges cannot cross each other, can only be drawn horizontally or vertically, and there can be a maximum of two bridges between any pair of islands.



Word Search

How to play The classic word-search puzzle: find all the words in the grid. Words may be hidden horizontally, vertically or diagonally and in either a forwards or backwards direction.

L	T	O	Y	G	O	L	O	C	E	V	B	J	Q	Z
X	Q	W	F	W	P	F	G	Z	S	Y	O	V	A	C
X	N	U	K	K	Y	G	O	L	O	H	T	A	P	C
K	O	G	D	F	S	F	T	E	M	P	A	S	T	L
U	N	L	E	D	M	R	J	E	D	A	N	T	C	C
N	E	B	T	O	B	E	D	E	U	R	Y	R	Y	G
M	U	P	H	Y	S	I	O	L	O	G	Y	O	T	Y
E	R	T	N	F	C	C	W	S	O	O	R	N	O	S
C	O	A	R	I	B	H	I	L	G	N	T	O	L	C
H	L	P	N	I	J	X	O	E	X	A	S	M	O	I
A	O	E	T	A	T	R	N	D	N	E	I	Y	G	S
N	G	G	N	I	T	I	K	S	H	C	M	B	Y	Y
I	Y	C	K	E	C	O	O	Y	E	O	E	V	D	H
C	Y	A	P	S	R	S	M	N	E	Z	H	J	X	P
S	C	I	M	A	N	Y	D	Y	S	L	C	U	J	I

ANATOMY
ASTRONOMY
BOTANY
CHEMISTRY
CRYOGENICS
CYTOLOGY
DYNAMICS
ECOLOGY
GEOSCIENCE
MECHANICS

MEDICINE
NEUROLOGY
NUTRITION
OCEANOGRAPHY
OPTICS
PATHOLOGY
PETROLOGY
PHYSICS
PHYSIOLOGY
ZOOLOGY

Solutions: pages 74-75

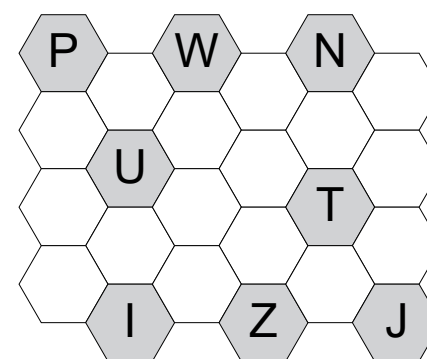
Calcudoku

How to play Place the numbers 1–6 once in each row and column, obeying sums in bold-lined regions. The number in each region indicates the total for the region, and the symbol shows which type of operation should be applied to the numbers: addition, subtraction, division or multiplication. Numbers may repeat within bold-lined regions. With subtraction always take the lower numbers away from the highest number in a region, and with division divide the highest number by the lower numbers.

2-		3÷			11+
3+	2÷	30x	11+		
48x	2-		5x		90x
		12x	1-		
5÷					

Hexalex

How to play Place each of the letters below once into the empty hexagons, crossing them off as you do so. Enter the letters in such a way that it is possible to find all the words listed alongside the grid by moving from hexagon to adjacent hexagon to spell out each word.



DOCK
DOZE
EDGY
FAN
FRY
JOT
MIXED
PLUSH
SLY
VEX
WRY

A C D E F G H K L M O R S V X Y

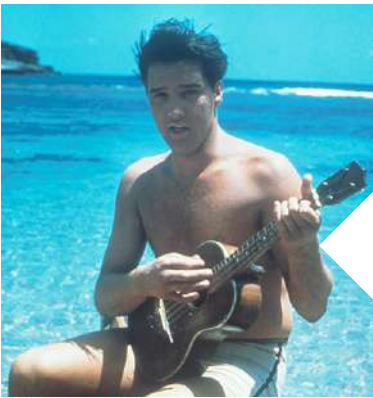
restaurant, and go jumping off rocks into Loch Fyne.

===
Arena: Alone With Chrissie Hynde
10.40pm, BBC Four

As part of an evening dedicated to The Pretenders, there's another chance to see this 2017 documentary shadowing the then 65-year-old singer, now a contented loner, painting at home in London, shopping for suits in Paris and appearing on Sarah Barnhardt's radio show in New York. More painful episodes, such as the premature deaths of two of her bandmates, are passed over for a meditative return to the Ohio suburbs where Hynde grew up, and a cemetery where she used to hang out.

FILM CHOICE

LAURENCE PHELAN



FILM OF THE DAY

Blue Hawaii
4.05pm, Sky Cinema Greats
(Norman Taurog, 1961)
A 26-year-old Elvis (left) glides through this musical with the relaxed, amused air of a man equally as comfortable astride a surfboard as strumming a guitar by the fireside at a beach party. About 50 per cent of his dialogue is cheesy chat up lines, and Technicolor may well have been invented to film the Hawaiian shirts, flower garlands and sunsets in this film. Angela Lansbury plays Elvis's overbearing mother; his pineapple canning magnate father is more with it, though: "That's something we may have to get used to," he concedes after a fine, hip-swivelling performance of 'Rock-a-Hula Baby' "...It's called the sound of youth."

===
The Remains Of The Day
2.15pm, BBC Two

(James Ivory, 1993)
Merchant-Ivory's supremely controlled adaptation of the Kazuo Ishiguro novel, with Anthony Hopkins as an emotionally repressed butler and Emma Thompson as the housekeeper who'd like to breach his barriers of professional reserve.

===
The Incredibles
7pm, BBC Three

(Brad Bird, 2004)
Pixar's blockbuster, about a family of superheroes who are forced to live anonymously after rescuing one too many litigious citizens, is action-packed and witty fare with a cool, retro-futurist visual design.

ON DEMAND

Cobra Kai
Netflix
Ralph Macchio returns as Daniel LaRusso in this *Karate Kid* spin-off series.

A Chiara
Mubi
The Calabrian-set coming-of-age trilogy concludes.

Offshore Incorporated
BritBox
Explores the rampant tax avoidance schemes found in the United Kingdom and around the world.

itv3

4

More 4

sky max

sky atlantic

6.00 Classic Coronation Street (S) **6.35 Classic Coronation Street** (S) **7.00 Classic Emmerdale** (S) **7.30 Classic Emmerdale** (S) **8.05 That's My Boy** (S) **8.35 That's My Boy** (S) **9.05 The Royal** (S) **10.05 The Royal** (S) **11.10 Heartbeat** (S) **12.05 Heartbeat** (S) **1.10 ITV Racing: Live From Doncaster** Coverage of day two of the St Leger meeting (S) **4.00 Classic Emmerdale** (S) **4.30 Classic Emmerdale** (S) **5.00 Classic Coronation Street** (S) **5.30 Classic Coronation Street** (S).

6.00 Hollyoaks (S) **7.00 Ramsay's Kitchen Nightmares USA** (S) **8.00 Black-ish** (S) **9.00 How I Met Your Mother** (S) **10.00 The Big Bang Theory** (S) **10.30 The Big Bang Theory** (S) **11.00 Young Sheldon** (S) **11.30 Young Sheldon** (S) **12.00 Brooklyn Nine-Nine** (S) **12.30 Brooklyn Nine-Nine** (S) **1.00 The Big Bang Theory** (S) **1.30 The Big Bang Theory** (S) **2.00 The Big Bang Theory** (S) **2.30 The Big Bang Theory** (S) **3.00 Young Sheldon** (S) **3.30 Young Sheldon** (S) **4.00 Married At First Sight UK** (S) **5.15 Rude(ish) Tube Shorts** (S) **5.30 The Big Bang Theory** (S).

8.55 Kirstie's House Of Craft (S) **9.15 A Place In The Sun** (S) **10.05 A Place In The Sun** (S) **11.05 Find It, Fix It, Flog It** (S) **12.05 Find It, Fix It, Flog It** (S) **1.10 Heir Hunters** (S) **2.10 Four In A Bed** (S) **2.40 Four In A Bed** (S) **3.15 Four In A Bed** (S) **3.50 Four In A Bed** (S) **4.20 Four In A Bed** (S) **4.50 Find It, Fix It, Flog It** (S) **5.55 Car S.O.S** (S).

6.00 Stargate SG-1 (R) (S). **7.00 Stargate SG-1** (R) (S). **8.00 The Flash** (R) (S) **9.00 DC's Legends Of Tomorrow** (R) (S). **10.00 Supergirl** (R) (S). **11.00 NCIS: New Orleans** (R) (S). **12.00 NCIS: New Orleans** (R) (S). **1.00 Hawaii Five-0** (R) (S). **2.00 MacGyver** (R) (S). **3.00 DC's Legends Of Tomorrow** (R) (S). **4.00 The Flash** (R) (S). **5.00 Supergirl** (R) (S).

6.00 Storm City (R) (S). **6.50 Storm City** (R) (S). **7.45 Boardwalk Empire** (R) (S). **8.50 Boardwalk Empire** (R) (S). **10.00 The Sopranos** (R) (S). **11.05 The Sopranos** (R) (S). **12.15 Six Feet Under** (R) (S). **1.20 Six Feet Under** (R) (S). **2.25 Game Of Thrones** (R) (S). **3.30 Boardwalk Empire** (R) (S). **4.40 Boardwalk Empire** (R) (S). **5.45 The Sopranos** (R) (S).

6.00 Heartbeat A gang of mods causes havoc in the village. Sarah Tansey stars (S).

6.00 The Big Bang Theory (S). **6.30 The Big Bang Theory** Sheldon and Penny fall out over a game of paintball (S).

6.55 Escape To The Chateau (S).

6.00 Stargate SG-1 The team races to save Teal'c (R) (S).

6.50 The Sopranos Dr Melfi is raped (R) (S).

7.00 Heartbeat Vernon attempts to impress the new doctor (S).

7.00 Hollyoaks (S). **7.30 The Big Bang Theory** Sheldon faces his arch-enemy – actor Wil Wheaton (S).

7.55 The Yorkshire Dales And The Lakes (S).

7.00 Stargate SG-1 A giant asteroid threatens Earth (R) (S).

7.55 Game Of Thrones (R) (S).

8.00 McDonald & Dodds The duo are sucked into the fast and furious world of Formula 1 (S).

8.00 Lego Masters The four remaining teams must build a robot-pet. Last in the series (S).

9.00 Agatha Christie's Hjerson In Swedish (S).

8.00 Freddie Fries Again Andrew Flintoff and Rob Penn head to south Wales (R) (S).

9.00 Rob & Romesh vs Ballet Rob and Romesh perform in Swan Lake (R) (S). **9.00 Munich Games** Political thriller, starring Yousef Sweid and Seyneb Saleh (S).

10.00 The Bay Erin offers an olive branch to Conor (S).

11.05 The Bay Divisions within the Rahman household widen on the day of Saif's funeral (S). **11.05 Naked Attraction** Anna Richardson presents the dating show (S).

10.00 24 Hours In A&E A rail worker is airlifted in after being hit by a high-speed train (S).

10.00 Banshee Hood investigates the murder of a Kinaho girl (R) (S).

10.00 Munich Games The Israeli team arrives, which escalates the situation (S).

12.10 The Royal (S). **1.10 The Royal** (S) **2.10 Unwind With ITV** (S) **2.30 Teleshopping**

12.10 Naked Attraction (S) **1.15 First Dates Hotel** (S) **2.20 Below Deck: Mediterranean** (S) **3.10 Gogglebox** (S) **4.05 Brooklyn Nine-Nine** (S). **4.30 Brooklyn Nine-Nine** (S) **4.55 Baby Daddy** (S).

12.10 999: On The Front Line (S) **1.15 8 Out Of 10 Cats Does Countdown** (S). **2.20 24 Hours In A&E** (S). **3.25 Food Unwrapped** (S). **3.55 Close**

12.00 A League Of Their Own (R). **1.00 The Russell Howard Hour** (R). **1.45 Road Wars** (R) (S). **2.40 Road Wars** (R) (S). **3.10 Hawaii Five-0** (R) (S). **4.05 MacGyver** (R) (S). **5.00 Highway Patrol** (R) (S).

12.05 We Own This City (R) (S). **1.15 The Wire** (R) (S). **2.20 Treme** (R) (S) **3.35 In Treatment** (R) (S). **4.00 Storm City** (R) (S). **5.00 Storm City** (R) (S).

Radio

BBC Radio 1

6.33am Radio 1's Best New Pop **6.57** Newsbeat **7.00** Radio 1 Breakfast With Greg James **10.00** Radio 1 Anthems **10.30** Newsbeat **10.32** Radio 1 Anthems **11.02** Katie Thistleton **12.45pm** Newsbeat **1.00** Matt And Mollie **3.00** Radio 1's Party Anthems **4.00** The Official Chart On Radio 1 With Scott Mills **5.45** Newsbeat **6.00** Radio 1's Dance Party With Danny Howard **8.00** Radio 1's Future Dance With Sarah Story **10.00** Pete Tong **12mdn't** Radio 1's Essential Mix **2.00** Radio 1 Dance Presents **3.00** Danny Howard **4.00** Radio 1's Wind Down Presents **5.00** Radio 1 Relax

BBC Radio 1Xtra

6am Battle Of The Mixes **6.30** Battle Of The Mixes **7.00** Swarzy **10.00** Fee Mak **12.45pm** Newsbeat **1.00** Seani B **4.00** Sian Anderson **5.45** Newsbeat **6.00** Sian Anderson **7.00** Jeremiah Asiamah **8.30** Jeremiah Asiamah's Get Lit Mix **9.00** Kenny Allstar **11.00** Sir Spyro **1am** 1Xtra Salutes. **2.00** 1Xtra @ 20-20 Years Of Dancehall **3.00** 1Xtra @ 20-20 Years Of Dancehall **4.00** Big Narstie's Big Night Out **5.00** Amapiano To AfroHouse

BBC Radio 2

6.30am The Zoe Ball Breakfast Show **9.30** Ken Bruce **12noon** Tina Daheley **2.00** Steve Wright In The Afternoon **4.15** Steve Wright In The Afternoon – Serious Jockin' **5.00** Sara Cox **7.00** Michelle Visage **8.30** Michelle Visage's Handbag Hits **9.00** The Good Groove With DJ Spoony **11.00** The Rock Show With Johnnie Walker **12mdn't** Romesh Ranganathan: For The Love Of Hip-Hop **1.00** Pop In The First Degree: 40 Years Of Bananarama **2.00** Radio 2 Unwinds With Angela Griffin **3.00** Sophie Ellis-Bextor's Kitchen Disco **4.00** Radio 2 In Concert: Chris Rea **5.00** Radio 2 In Concert

BBC Radio 3

6.30am Breakfast **9.00** Essential Classics **12noon** Composer Of The Week: Schubert **1.00** Radio 3 Lunchtime Concert **2.00** Afternoon Concert **4.30** The Listening Service **5.00** In Tune **7.00** In Tune Mixtape **7.30** BBC Proms 2022 **10.00** Sunday Feature: The Silence Of My Pain. Hannah French discusses her experiences of living with chronic pain. **10.45** The Way I See It. Alastair Sooke looks at works from New York City's Museum of Modern Art. Last in the series. **11.00** Late Junction. An eclectic selection of musical styles and cultures. **1am** Piano Flow With Lianne La Havas **2.00** Happy Harmonies With Laufey **3.00** Through The Night

BBC Radio 4

6am Today **9.00** The Reunion **9.45** Fatwa **10.00** Woman's Hour **11.00** The Spark **11.30**

Relativity **12noon** News **12.04** AntiSocial **12.57** Weather **1.00** The World At One **1.45** Bhopal **2.00** The Archers **2.15** Drama: Exemplar **2.45** Living With The Gods **3.00** Gardeners' Question Time **3.45** New Frequencies **4.00** Last Word **4.30** More Or Less **5.00** PM **5.57** Weather **6.00** Six O'Clock News **6.30** The News Quiz. New series. Topical comedy panel game. **7.00** The Archers. It's all hands to the pump at The Bull. **7.15** Screenshot. News and insights from the film world. **8.00** Any Questions? Victoria Derbyshire presents political debate from Grimsby Central Hall. **8.50** A Point Of View. A reflection on a topical issue. **9.00** Bhopal. The man who foretold the world's worst industrial accident. **10.00** The World Tonight. News round-up. **10.45** Book At Bedtime: The Maid. By Nita Prose. **11.00** Great Lives **11.30** Today In Parliament **12mdn't** News And Weather **12.30** Fatwa **12.48** Shipping Forecast **1.00** As BBC World Service **5.20** Shipping Forecast **5.30** News Briefing **5.43** Prayer For The Day **5.45** Witness

BBC Radio 4 LW

8.31am Yesterday In Parliament **9.45** Daily Service **10.45** Test Match Special **12.01pm** Shipping Forecast **12.04** Test Match Special **5.54** Shipping Forecast **5.57** Test Match Special

BBC Radio 4 Extra

6am Some Mother's Son **6.30** An Ice Cream War **7.00** The Golden Age **7.30** Ed Reardon's Week **8.00** It Sticks Out Half A Mile **8.30** Thirty Minutes Worth **9.00** Say The Word **9.30** The Circle **10.00** The Last Of The Mohicans **11.00** Podcast Radio Hour **12noon** It Sticks Out Half A Mile **12.30** Thirty Minutes Worth **1.00** Some Mother's Son **1.30** An Ice Cream War **2.00** The History Of Brazil Is Round **2.15** Betsy And Napoleon **2.30** The Invisible College **3.00** The Last Of The Mohicans **4.00**

Pick of the day

BBC Proms 2022
7.30pm, BBC Radio 3
Ian Skelly (above) presents from the Royal Albert Hall as Yannick Nézet-Séguin conducts the Philadelphia Orchestra with violinist Lisa Batiashvili.

Say The Word **4.30** The Circle **5.00** The Golden Age **5.30** Ed Reardon's Week **6.00** Journey Into Space: Operation Luna **6.30** Sounds Natural **7.00** It Sticks Out Half A Mile **7.30** Thirty Minutes Worth **8.00** Some Mother's Son **8.30** An Ice Cream War **9.00** Podcast Radio Hour **10.00** Comedy Club: Ed Reardon's Week **10.30** Comedy Club: Mitch Benn's Crimes Against Music **11.00** Comedy Club: What The Future? **11.30** Comedy Club: James Acaster's Perfect Sounds **12mdn't** Journey Into Space: Operation Luna **12.30** Sounds Natural **1.00** Some Mother's Son **1.30** An Ice Cream War **2.00** The History Of Brazil Is Round **2.15** Betsy And Napoleon **2.30** The Invisible College **3.00** The Last Of The Mohicans **4.00** Say The Word **4.30** The Circle **5.00** The Golden Age **5.30** Ed Reardon's Week

BBC 5 Live

6am 5 Live Breakfast **9.00** Nicky Campbell **11.00** Chiles On Friday **1pm** Kammy & Ben's Proper Football Podcast **1.30** The Footballers' Football Podcast **2.00** Elis James And John Robins **4.00** 5 Live Drive **7.00** 5 Live Sport: The Friday Football Social **9.00** 5 Live Boxing **9.30** 5 Live Formula **1.10.00** Geeta Guru-Murthy **1am** Laura McGhie **5.00** 5 Live Boxing

BBC 6 Music

7.30am Lauren Laverne **10.30** Mary Anne Hobbs **1pm** Craig Charles **4.00** Steve Lamacq **7.00** The People's Party With Afrodeutsche **9.00** Tom Ravenscroft **11.00** The Ravers Hour **12mdn't** 6 Music's Indie Forever **1.00** 6 Music's Emo Forever **2.00** Focus Beats **4.00** Ambient Focus

Classic FM

6am More Music Breakfast **9.00** Alexander Armstrong **12noon** Anne-Marie Minhall **4.00** John Brunning **7.00** Smooth Classics At Seven **10.00** Smooth Classics **1am** Katie Breathwick **4.00** Sam Pitts

Absolute Radio

6am Dave Berry **10.00** Leona Graham **1pm** Ben Burrell **4.00** Bush And Richie **7.00** Absolute 80s Greatest Hits With Claire Sturgess **10.00** Sophie K **4am** Ross Buchanan

Heart

6.30am Heart Breakfast With Jamie Theakston And Amanda Holden **10.00** Pandora Christie **1pm** Matt Wilkinson **4.00** JK And Kelly Brook **7.00** Heart's Club Classics With Toby Anstis **11.00** Rezzy Ghadjar **1am** Lindsey Russell

TalkSPORT

6am Breakfast With Alan Brazil **10.00** Jim White And Simon Jordan **1pm** Hawksbee And Jacobs **4.00** Drive With Andy Goldstein And Darren Bent **7.00** GameDay Countdown **10.00** Sports Bar **1am** Extra Time With Martin Kelner

In tomorrow's **i**weekend



40 best podcasts to listen to now



Tom Kerridge's 'real-life' recipes



Budget breaks for every holidaymaker

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NEWS

LIFESTYLE

Life lessons from retirees for younger people

Do not chase money – let it chase you. Worry about how you feel, not how you look. By **Boróka Bó**

For many young people, retirement is a blip on the radar, if not a total unknown. This is particularly true during our cost of living crisis, when investing and contributing more to your pension might fall down the priority list behind paying rent.

Despite this, more and more young people are starting to think about retirement at an earlier age, with many focusing on their future quality of life and financial independence after they leave work.

This can sometimes come at the expense of their wellbeing while they are still working, spending extremely frugally and focusing on the “hustle”, instead of enjoying the freedom and good times that could also characterise young adulthood.

For new research, I interviewed more than 200 people and surveyed hundreds more to understand how they balance time and money. I focused on people going through major life transitions: recent retirees and new parents, and people preparing for those moments. While we expect retirees to have all the time in the world, I found that in reality, retirees are often pressed for time.

More than a quarter of them feel time-poor, with not enough hours left in the day for all they need to do, regardless of the money they have. Although wealthy retirees generally have more control over their schedules, both rich and poor retirees are affected by time poverty in older ages.

It's never too late (or too early) to start making the most of your time and living a better life. Here are some important lessons learned from my retirees' journeys.

DON'T CHASE MONEY, LET MONEY CHASE YOU

One of the biggest regrets among my less-privileged research participants was their inability to get as much education as they wanted when younger. Some left university or college early to support their families, or because they could not afford to continue.

But all regretted not getting as much education as they needed

to be competitive in the labour force later on. To make enough money, pick something and follow through: whether university or skilled technical trades, get good at something. The money will follow.

WORRY ABOUT HOW YOU FEEL – NOT HOW YOU LOOK

When youth wanes, you are left with how you feel. In retirement, will you be in pain thanks to spending your life in hard labour or non-stop work? My interviewees made clear that when you prioritise making money over health – whether by necessity or by choice – you pay for this by having to give up your precious time in retirement.

Some of my new retirees' health recovery efforts included spending extra time with medical providers, and spending money and time on commuting to appointments.

Women were doubly disadvantaged here as, unlike men, they continued to face societal pressures to look younger than their age.

To avoid having to spend extra time and money on health recovery in later life, focus on health preservation in earlier life.

Sometimes you may need to prioritise your own wellbeing above the needs of your employer, for example by taking time off for your physical or mental health. While this is a luxury not afforded to all, movements like “quiet quitting” are beginning to start a public conversation on this topic.

MAKE YOUR TIME COUNT BY SHARING IT WITH OTHERS

We can “buy” time by exchanging money for tasks we do not wish to do. Consuming items can also have time costs, as both shopping and learning to use new items can take up time.

Thanks to my retirees, I now also know that we can get more out of time when we share it with others.

Time is what social scientists would call a “network good”.

In other words, how we value time depends on the number of other people we can share our time with.

All of my retired participants

spoke of the need to build strong, healthy relationships while younger, to have friends we can share life with as we age. Shared time with friends leads to greater emotional wellbeing and happiness.

IDENTIFY YOUR PASSIONS EARLY

While nearly all of my retirees spent a considerable amount of time financially planning for retirement, almost as many regretted not planning ahead when it comes to cultivating hobbies and interests.

To make enough money, pick something and follow through. Get good at something – money will follow



This was particularly pressing for my wealthy retirees, as they faced a drop in their social status and loss of work friends when they retired.

Starting new hobbies and interests once retired – out of necessity – can feel like extra work. Pursuing passions is necessary for wellbeing, but this should be done before retirement, while it is purely for fun.

TIME IS LOVE

Repeatedly, my interview participants gently reminded me that giving your time to another person is the biggest act of kindness we can do. This is because once you give your time away, you can never get it back.

Be mindful of this as you

give your time: to your friends, employers, acquaintances or to social media companies.

Thanks to my participants, I now often ask myself: Does this company or organisation love me?

Generally, the answer is no, at which point I also know they do not deserve much of my time.

Conversely, when a friend, trusted mentor, teacher or stranger donates their precious time to me, I am aware that my appreciation and kindness can only ever partially repay them.

My retired participants show that it is important to remain grateful for the time we share with each other while on Earth. When the daily grind gets you down, remind yourself that time is love.

HEALTH

Women's sport has ignored the impact of periods for too long

Menstrual cycle tracking could be key to training and improving athletic performance. By **Kia-Elise Green**

Last month, when calf cramps robbed GB sprinter Dina Asher-Smith of a 100m gold at the European Athletics Championships, some were surprised at the reason she gave for her dip in performance.

She explained it was “girl stuff” and she called for more research into the effects of female athletes’ menstrual cycles on their athletic performance.

“More people need to research it from a sports science perspective, because it’s huge,” the 26-year-old said. “People don’t always talk about it, either.”

“I feel if it was a men’s issue, there would be a million different ways to combat things.”

Asher-Smith’s teammates rallied around, praising her for highlighting an issue that is rarely spoken about: how the menstrual cycle can affect women’s physical performance – and how embarrassment about periods may be putting some young girls off sport entirely.

Sportswomen have welcomed Asher-Smith’s openness. “It needs to be talked about and discussed more,” says England netball international Ama Agbeze. “If [periods] aren’t being addressed at the elite level, then what hope does everyone else have? People at the top levels, of all ages, are struggling to ask questions, so what’s it going to be like for a 12- or 13-year-old girl who must do sport but doesn’t know how to broach the subject or where to go to research information?”

Agbeze, who captained the England netball team to gold at the 2018 Commonwealth Games, says that despite netball being predominantly female, menstrual cycles are rarely spoken about – not even between players – but they play a huge part in the sport.

“There are horrible days when you don’t even know how you’re going to get through the session,” she tells *i*. “I remember days where I’ve been lying on the floor in agony not knowing what to do, and you have to go and train.”

As well as physical pain and effect on performance,

there are practical issues, too. “England’s away dress is white,” she says, “and people are concerned that they might come on their period and it’ll show.”

“I know there’s athletes and players who are on the pill and they’ll keep taking their pill when they come up to competition [to prevent a period of bleeding], so they don’t have to deal with it.”

Although she has never done this herself, the former England captain is concerned about the consequences for players who take their contraception incorrectly to align with matches and wishes more was known about menstruation and sport.

Dr Rebecca Robinson, a sport and exercise consultant at Marylebone Health in London, explains that the four stages of a woman’s cycle can alter the way her body reacts to extreme

“If menstruation was a men’s issue, there would be a million different ways to combat things

exercise, although the effects will vary from person to person.

Most women can withstand a higher intensity of training at the beginning of their cycles because the hormones are balanced. “When we go into the second phase after ovulation, we move into this point where people can find things change for them, and that leads up to the premenstrual phase.”

For some people, she says, this shift in hormones can “make it harder to get to the absolute peak of performance”. She adds: “For others, the psychological side is affected too, and coordination can alter around the time of

menstruation, so that can lead to a higher injury risk”.

Clearly, it is to sports teams’ advantage to acknowledge the relationship between periods and sport, and many are now beginning to take the issue seriously.

Chelsea FC Women uses a specialist app called FitrWoman to monitor players’ cycles. With the players’ consent, Chelsea’s coaches can access the information and tailor the players’ training programmes around their cycles.

Agbeze says that in netball, some data is collected, but training is not usually altered according to players’ cycles. She adds that her sport would welcome an approach like Chelsea’s.

Like FitrWoman, apps such as Wild Ai track women’s cycles by asking them numerous questions about their birth control, daily moods, symptoms and average cycle length to collect data and advise individuals on when is best to train and prevent injury.

Wild Ai is used by Olympians such as cyclist Anne Terpstra and by US professional cycling and rugby teams. US triathlete Kerry Librada Girona, who uses Wild Ai, says: “To compete at a high level you have to be so incredibly in tune with your body and your cycles and everything you put into your body.”

Agbeze, from Birmingham, has worked with Sport England’s This Girl Can campaign to encourage women into sport and fitness. The campaign addresses the issue of periods head-on, along with other health issues that can affect women’s fitness.

Agbeze believes that if women felt more comfortable and were more open about their cycles, the taboo of menstrual cycles and sport would break down further. She says that even after being an athlete for more than 20 years, she still learns new things about how her sport can affect women, and is “baffled that this is the case”.

The netballer often speaks to young women in schools and feels she has to tread carefully on the subject of periods so as not to embarrass the girls.

“If you do start talking about it to a group of young girls at a school, they’re really embarrassed and find it awkward and awful – but it is a natural thing that happens,” she says. “I remember times in the changing rooms you’d say to other girls, ‘Oh my god, why didn’t you tell me my tampon string was hanging out?’”

Like other women in sport, Agbeze is campaigning for players and coaches to undergo training on how menstrual cycles affect sport performance. Conversations like the one started by Asher-Smith are just the start, she says. “We need to get it out in the open.”



Dina Asher-Smith argues that periods should be studied as part of sport science because they affect athletes’ performance
MAJA HITIJ/GETTY

Panorama

Around the world in 10 stories



GERMANY

Merkel memoir coming in 2024

Angela Merkel, who served as chancellor of Germany for 16 years, will release her political memoirs in 2024.

Her publisher announced yesterday that Mrs Merkel, who is co-authoring the book with her longtime adviser Beate Baumann, will provide an exclusive, personal look into her political life and work.

"I am pleased to reflect on central decisions and situations of my political work in my book... and make them understandable to a broad public," Mrs Merkel said. AP

INDIA

Troops end border conflict

Indian and Chinese troops have begun disengaging from the Gogra-Hotsprings border in the western Himalayas, the Indian government said, two years after clashes at the frontier strained diplomatic ties.

The statement comes ahead of a meeting in Uzbekistan next week that the Chinese President, Xi Jinping, and Indian Prime Minister, Narendra Modi, are expected to attend.

India said disengagement was taking place in a co-ordinated and planned way to keep border peace.

An Indian defence source said: "The eyeball-to-eyeball contact has ended." REUTERS

FRANCE

Duralex to halt production for four months

By Caroline Pailliez

The French tableware maker Duralex, whose sturdy drinking glasses are ubiquitous in schools and corporate canteens, will stop production for at least four months over what its chief executive officer described

as "brutal, crazy" gas and electricity costs.

Companies across Europe are scrambling to find ways to keep producing despite energy prices taken to record highs by the war in Ukraine.

"Electricity prices for the last quarter and the beginning of next year would have been inexplicable, brutal, crazy prices which did not allow production to continue under normal conditions," said Duralex's boss, Jose-Luis Llacuna. "This is why we decided to put the oven on standby." REUTERS

Postcard From... Accra

A keypad-locked door in Ghana's capital Accra hid a neon-lit hall of flickering processors, clicking keyboards and excited voices. The crowd erupted as brother beat sister in a round of *Mortal Kombat*.

British-Ghanaian gamer Annabel Ashallay-Anthony smiled at her brother Adam, after the tournament match at a gaming hub organised by Melanin Gamers, a collective she hopes will change the video game landscape.

Four years ago, Ms Ashallay-Anthony and her two brothers established a crew of video game enthusiasts dedicated

to providing a safe space for gamers of diverse ethnicities, sexual orientations and gender identities.

Melanin Gamers accrued more than 4,000 members worldwide since, and hosted tournaments sponsored by industry companies such as Electronic Arts and Ubisoft.

After her brother Alan was harassed online for his skin colour, Ms Ashallay-Anthony made it her mission to build this community.

"Why is it always like, 'Oh, someone's saying something, better mute your mic'?" she said. "Turn your camera off so no one knows".

"All of these things are things the victim has to do because of the bully. So I thought, why not get rid of the bully?" REUTERS

Cooper Inveen and Francis Kokoroko

IRAN

LGBT rights activists are sentenced to execution

By Conrad Smith

Two women have been sentenced to death in Iran on charges of "corruption on Earth" because of their links to the LGBT community.

Zahra Seddiqi Hamedani, 31, and Elham Choubdar, 24, have been convicted of multiple offences, rights groups said, as the Islamic Republic continues its clampdown on dissent and what it views as immorality.

Other charges the pair faced include "promoting homosexuality", promoting "Christianity", speaking to hostile media and sex trafficking, *The Guardian* reported.

Official state media claimed: "Con-



Ayatollah Ali Khamenei has called homosexuality a 'moral deprivation'

trary to news published online, the sentenced have deceived and trafficked young women and girls out of the country by promising them

educational and work opportunities, thus leading to the suicide of several of their victims."

Supporters took to social media to share pictures of the two women, saying they are innocent LGBT activists.

In March, Iran's Supreme Leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei described homosexuality as part of a "moral deprivation" in Western civilisation.

"Corruption on Earth" is a charge Iran's authorities use to refer to a number of moral offences.

Advancing rights have faced other roadblocks recently, with Turkey cracking down on pride parades and the Gulf states accusing Netflix of promoting homosexuality.



Shooting to the top

Members of the Climbing Cholas of Bolivia Warmis, a group campaigning for the rights of indigenous Bolivian women through mountaineering, play football at an altitude of 6,000m before climbing to the top of the 6,088m Huayna Potosi mountain near El Alto, the world's highest city. MARTIN SILVA/AFP/GETTY

JAPAN

Kishida accepts criticism over state funeral for Abe

By Chang-Ran Kim and Sakura Murakami
IN TOKYO

Japan's prime minister has accepted criticism that he had not sufficiently explained why he wants a state funeral for assassinated former premier Shinzo Abe, a decision that has seen his support slip to its lowest ever.

Prime Minister Fumio Kishida's

decision to hold the funeral on 27 September to be paid for by the state, is widely opposed by the public amid anger over revelations that ties between the ruling party and a church group could have played a part in the assassination.

"I humbly accept the criticism that my explanation was insufficient," Mr Kishida told members of parliament.

Mr Abe, Japan's longest-serving

but divisive premier, was shot and killed at an election rally on 8 July.

His suspected assassin, arrested at the scene moments after the killing, bore a grudge against the Unification Church, alleging it bankrupted his mother, and blamed Mr Abe for promoting it.

Many voters are sceptical that the party will cut ties with the church, as Mr Kishida has promised. REUTERS

PUERTO RICO

Singer Martin sues nephew

The Puerto Rican singer Ricky Martin has sued his nephew for damages stemming from what he claims are false allegations.

Mr Martin's lawyers said that the nephew's claim, which he has since recanted, has cost the singer millions of dollars in lost income.

The lawsuit alleges that Mr Martin has been "persecuted, besieged, harassed, stalked and extorted" by his "troubled" nephew for economic reasons. AP

BOLIVIA

Fire threatens nature reserves

More than a dozen forest fires have broken out in the lowlands of Bolivia, threatening at least four nature reserves, officials said.

At least 16 major fires in the department of Santa Cruz and another four in the department of Beni grew on Wednesday, propelled by more than 90 kilometre per hour winds.

The fires in Santa Cruz's forests, which include three protected areas, showed no sign of stopping despite the work of hundreds of firefighters.

THAILAND

Vlogger advises on budget buying

A video blogger's tips on grocery shopping on a budget of just 4,000 baht (£95) a month are attracting thousands of followers as Thailand grapples with inflation.

Phattaradej "Top" Luechai, 29, creates bite-sized videos of himself buying cheap food in bulk, preparing it in small portions and trying out different menus.

"If I don't live this lifestyle, I will not have any savings left," he said. REUTERS

09.09.2022

FRiDAY

Film
Music
Comedy
Theatre
Going Out
Staying In
Television
Books

'I was laughed at for refusing to conform'

As David Oyelowo dips his toe into comedy in his latest film, he tells **Nick Duerden** how attitudes on colour-blind casting are changing - and why love is his 'glue'

Back in 1998, in the early stages of his career, David Oyelowo announced he would no longer be doing work that relied solely upon the colour of his skin. He would instead, he declared, be striving towards colour-blind casting. At the time,

such a thing was still mostly unthinkable. "I was laughed at," he says, "and told that, sorry, that was just how it is."

Except it wasn't - not for him. In his career Oyelowo has almost consistently been in work, and he's rarely conformed to either type or expectation. He's per-

formed as Henry VI for the Royal Shakespeare Society, and as a spy in the BBC drama *Spooks*. He's been in *Jack Reacher* with Tom Cruise, and *A Most Violent Year* with Jessica Chastain.

This doesn't mean that he ignores race, however, and those films in which he has

played real people have packed a punch. He was Martin Luther King in *Selma*, while his turn in *A United Kingdom*, about a mixed-race couple, was based on the true story of the heir to the throne of Bechuanaland, who settled in London after the Second World War. »

'The cultural potency of film and TV is indisputable'

Continued from page 63

"The aspiration for me," he says, "is not only to entertain, but to inspire and educate, and to break down prejudice. To do that, you have to highlight characters that have been hitherto unseen, or whose achievements in history have been hidden or maligned."

"When I was a kid, watching copious amounts of TV, it would have made such a difference had I seen more of Africa, and Africans, or African-Americans, or women, on screen. The cultural potency of film and television is indisputable, and so my participation in it has always been to help things to move forward. If you're not part of the solution," he adds, "you may be part of the problem."

A devout Christian, Oyelowo once said, "I don't really do films that don't have some kind of message to them." So one might be surprised to find him in *See How They Run*, a knockabout comedy caper whose only conceivable message might be an imperative to have as much impish fun with the whodunnit genre as possible. If nothing else, it permits the 46-year-old to flex his hitherto-underused comedic chops.

The film is set in 1953, and tells the story of a brash American film producer (Adrien Brody) who wants to make a film of the Agatha Christie play *The Mousetrap*. But the contract stipulates that this can only happen once it concludes its West End run.

The joke here, of course, is *The Mousetrap* never finishes its theatrical run – it's still going strong today. So a film about a play about



Comedy caper David Oyelowo (far right) with the cast of 'See How They Run'; right, with his wife Jessica at this year's Oscars
20TH CENTURY; ANGELA WEISS/AFP

a murder becomes a film about a film about a play about a murder... and this is just the tip of its farcical thrust. Oyelowo, who stars alongside Saoirse Ronan, Sam Rockwell, Ruth Wilson and Shirley Henderson, plays Mervyn Cocker-Norris, a camp screenwriter trying to produce a script to please the cranky Hollywood producer. This is easier said than done. When the producer is bumped off early on, Cocker-Norris is the prime suspect.

Nothing about Oyelowo's performance is understated, which he enjoyed. "The clothes, the hair, playing against type," he beams. "There was a certain relish to that, and also being in an ensemble centred around the theatre."

Having spent much of his career on stage, he says that he didn't have to look very far into his theatrical past for inspiration. "Oh, there's no question that Mervyn Cocker-Norris is borrowed from a lot of characters I've met along the way."

Might these characters recognise themselves in his merciless depiction? He laughs. "Of course not! Absolutely not! They'd be horrified at the very notion of [being seen as] any-



thing but a very talented artist to be taken seriously at every turn."

David Oyelowo is among the most in-demand actors of his generation. In an industry in which, at any given time, up to 95 per cent of actors can expect to be out of work, he has remained in the 5 per cent who aren't. When we speak over video he's in Berlin filming his next project, *Role Play*, and is already preparing for the one after that, another biopic, this one of US boxer Sugar Ray Leonard.

His success is down to his talent, of course, but as funny as he is in *See How They Run* he's more known for being suave and serious, adept at brooding intensity.

Descended from Nigerian royalty, Oyelowo was born in 1976 in Oxford and partly raised, unlike most Nigerian royals, in Tooting Bec, south London. Between the ages of six and 14 he attended a boarding school in Lagos before returning to London as a teenager.

He has previously suggested part of the reason he first enrolled in drama school – his father had hoped he might study medicine – was because he fancied a girl there. Later, he met his wife Jessica at Lamda (London Academy of Music and Dramatic Art) and

they've been together ever since, now living in California with their four children and four dogs. He believes their union endures because his personal life has remained more important to him than his professional one.

"We have certain non-negotiables," he says. They are never apart for more than two weeks, irrespective of where in the world his work takes him. "We haven't broken it yet and we celebrate our 24th anniversary next week." Actually, they have, once, by 11 hours. "My wife [also an actor] was stuck on a set; I'm still upset with Tim Burton for keeping her."

It is precisely because of his marriage that the work he does must have corresponding significance. Otherwise, he suggests, what's the point?

"My wife is with me in Berlin, but our kids are back in LA and that tears at the heart. But our marriage has always been at the centre of our family, and our children know they are not the glue that keeps mummy and daddy to-

gether. Love is the glue. Love is why I turn down work if it means I'll be away from her for more than two weeks. I think that is what solidifies the validity and depth of the love we have for one another."

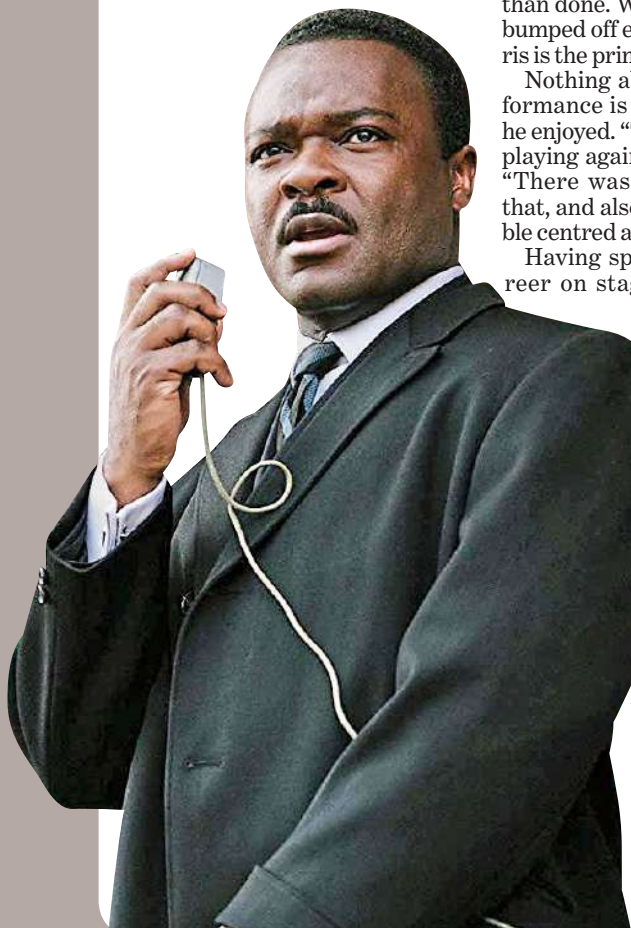
For the past couple of years Oyelowo, like other actors of a certain stature, has fielded endless rumours that he's in line to be the next James Bond. He'd find such a routine question the very height of tedium if the rumour did not contain within it confirmation of just how far colour-blind casting has come. James Bond always had to be white. Perhaps not any more.

"I take that question as being indicative of progress. Back in 1998, when I was being laughed at by agents, it was not a world in which the Bond question would come up in every interview I did. Now it does." He smiles, and clutches at his T-shirted biceps, which are not inconsiderable. "I welcome this new environment," he says. "I welcome the shift."

See *How They Run* is out now



David Oyelowo alongside Rosamund Pike in 'A United Kingdom' in 2016; left, playing Martin Luther King in 'Selma' in 2014 PATHE; PARAMOUNT



'Surgery is the new sex': body horror cuts so deep

CRIMES OF THE FUTURE (18)

★★★★★

Dir: David Cronenberg; 108mins.
Starring: Viggo Mortensen, Kristen Stewart, Léa Seydoux, Don McKellar

Review by Geoffrey Macnab

"Surgery is the new sex": a rallying cry that can only ever make sense coming from the mouth of Kristen Stewart, as a futuristic organ registrar, in a film by David Cronenberg, the master of conceptual body horror in cinema. The director of *Videodrome*, *Crash*, and *The Fly* has some reputation to live up to when we're talking about a sicko sci-fi gambit like this one, and for the most part he does: *Crimes of the Future* feels like vintage Cronenberg in the best possible way.

In a flat, drab-looking future world, human bodies have begun to evolve in unpredictable ways: new tumorous organs develop, physical pain is practically non-existent and infection no longer exists, allowing people to perform "desktop" surgery – unprofessional, unclean, wherever they feel like it.

In this brave new world of possibly microplastic-induced strangeness, performance artist and human guinea pig Saul Tenser (Viggo Mortensen, commandingly similar to a younger Cronenberg at some angles) allows his partner Caprice (Léa Seydoux) to perform public



Cutting edge Left to right, Léa Seydoux, Viggo Mortensen and Kristen Stewart in 'Crimes of the Future'

tattooing and excision of his new growths for the pleasure of a live audience.

Merging the Victorian surgery theatre into something sinuous and sexual, they grab the attention of a pair of bureaucrats, Whippet (Don McKellar) and Timlin (Kristen Stewart, brilliant and tremulous), who are fascinated by registering and logging all new organs from a security standpoint.

But there is more here than just the shock of public surgery; the lustful breaths catching in the throat, the tremors of restrained pleasure hidden on the face as

someone wiggles a tube in an incision wound. Suffice it to say, this is pretty pungent stuff.

This being Cronenberg, of course, there's nothing thoughtless about this often cringe-inducing gore; *Crimes of the Future* has twists that offer up some truly provocative questions about technology, the body, sexuality and the shifting, invasive parameters of medical technology.

Cronenberg sees the future not in the gleaming, hyper-sterile terms often pictured in science fiction, but in terms of tactile grotesquerie, inextricable from our most basic anatomical urges.

You can see it in the production design of his disturbingly cartilage-like furniture: high-tech chairs and beds that look like monstrous alien pods with spines and teeth, clinging to human bodies rather than vice versa.

If Tenser and Caprice are literally self-lacerating artists, drawing on themselves in the most actual sense to create their art, *Crimes of the Future* takes that to its furthest logical conclusion.

It may be a challenging viewing experience for the uninitiated, but if you want your boundaries pushed, few films this year will push them as hard.

A bit of bad blood spices up the party

BODIES BODIES BODIES (15)

★★★★★

Dir: Halina Reijn; 94mins.
Starring: Amandla Stenberg, Maria Bakalova, Rachel Sennott

This smart comedy slasher is drawn from a short story written by Kristen Roupenian, author of the viral *Cat Person*. Like *Mean Girls* meets *Scream*, it's about how bad things can go when pretty rich girls (and boys) realise they can't trust one another in a crisis.

Dutch film-maker Halina Reijn injects a freshness into the well-worn teen slasher genre on her English language directorial debut. It starts with Sophie (Amandla Stenberg) and new girlfriend Bee (Maria Bakalova) sharing a passionate snog. As the camera lingers and intrudes, the lovers carry on regardless and there's something even here, in this seemingly innocuous early scene, that suggests obliviousness to some menacing secret, the crossing of boundaries.

The pair eventually extricate themselves long enough to drive up to a mansion belonging to the parents of Sophie's childhood best friend David (Pete Davidson), where an entourage of conceited and obnoxious Gen Zs are busy swimming in the rain, snorting coke, yabbering on about their podcasts and popping David's dad's Dom Perignon with an antique machete.

It's quickly clear these so-called friends no longer really like each other ("I only hang out with you... because of the weight of our suffocating history," we will hear later). So far, so very wealthy and annoying. But when a thunderstorm rolls in, the lights go kaput and someone suggests playing a game in which they pretend to kill one another. The tone turns dark fast, and the bodies start piling up.

A terrific ensemble cast has plenty of chemistry and you suspect everyone as they reveal latent jealousies and suspicions based on age, class, race.

Shiva Baby's Rachel Sennott stands out as Alice, a narcissistic podcaster adorned with glow bands and incapable of not making everything about herself. The script is zingy, with a knack for playing up youth speak's overused buzzwords. "Don't call her a psychopath – it's so ableist!"

But best of all is the film's disinterest in female bodily gore. The camera concentrates on iPhone torches in the dark – friends' faces as they realise that a best mate doesn't like their podcast, that a girlfriend has been dishing secrets on their sex life, that someone doesn't care they didn't reply to your WhatsApp.

The real horror here is not attractive corpses but friendship gone sour; camaraderie that has turned, literally, to bad blood.

Francesca Steele

Such a tragedy to lose the vivacity of Marilyn

BLONDE (18)

★★★★★

Dir: Andrew Dominik; 166mins.
Starring: Ana de Armas, Adrien Brody, Garret Dillahunt

Review by Christina Newland

Marilyn Monroe has been dead for 60 years. In that time, she has been relentlessly objectified, adored, commodified and misunderstood. So what to say about a decorative – often beautiful – pastiche of a film like *Blonde*? With a howling emptiness at its centre, the film does a disservice not only to the considerable talents of its lead actor and director, but most of all to Marilyn Monroe herself, a woman who simply cannot be allowed to be left alone.

Andrew Dominik takes on Joyce Carol Oates's brick of a novel, and it's true that many of the near-three-hour movie's excesses are direct from the source material: Marilyn as the eternal female victim of men, of Hollywood, of the world. His style, it

must be said, is often faultless: the recreation of the minutiae of the era, of specific photographs of Marilyn and her cohorts, swapping aspect ratios and from colour to black and white, dependent on what moment he's recreating. And it's often admirably weird, from sex scenes in which bodies dissolve into one another like a Cubist painting to subtly monstrous faces in a crowd of photographers.

Dominik's interest in looping through the Freudian mess of his character's mind, and her preoccupation with the trauma of her early childhood, is notable mainly in its repetitive Daddy Issues thematic hammering.

That's before we get to the fact Marilyn literally calls both of her husbands "daddy", and that she is obsessed with having a child, which Dominik shows us in nauseating gynaecological detail that would be more appropriate in another film altogether.

Dominik – and by extension, Oates – sees Norma Jean as the real subject of the material, the



Candle in the wind Ana de Armas is excellent as Marilyn Monroe NETFLIX

"real" Marilyn beneath the peroxide and Hollywood fabrication, forgetting that in life Marilyn had agency in choosing her persona, had a burning ambition that the film ignores entirely in favour of seeing her as a – well – candle in the wind, knocked around by the slings and arrows of her trauma.

Ana de Armas is excellent, in both her mimicry of Marilyn and in telegraphing the anguish of those spotlight eyes and breathy speech patterns, but her vulnerability and talent cannot overcome the sheer ridiculousness of the way her character is conceived.

Rarely have I seen a film with

such a helpless, near-constantly weeping victim at its centre that isn't set in the middle of a warzone. Vanishingly little of Marilyn's screen career appears but for her star-making turn in noir *Niagara* and the "Diamonds Are a Girl's Best Friend" sequence – and none provides any joy or lightness.

Everything in *Blonde* is a wound, another chink in Marilyn's glossy armour until she becomes incapable of tolerating it any longer. To Dominik, the central fact of Marilyn's life is that she died, in part by her own hand, at 36. That's it. No vivacity, no choice, just tragedy. Nothing more to see here, folks.



THE =PLAYLIST=

What we're listening
to right now

LEWIS CAPALDI FORGET ME

Out today, our favourite "funny chap with earnest songs" (above) yanks another banger from his sleeve. A desperate, yearning and immediately emotional pop hit.

ABILENE PLAINS

The duo of Waxahatchee's Katie Crutchfield and Texas-born Jess Williamson has a soft, rolling, country twang. *I Walked With You A Ways* is out on 14 October.

**LAMBCHOP
LITTLE BLACK BOXES**
This single eloquently meanders through disco, soul and electronica, held together by Kurt Wagner's vulnerable vigour. *The Bible* is out on 30 September.

**MARLON WILLIAMS
DON'T GO BACK**
The New Zealand raconteur releases new album *My Boy* today. Find here a groovy, New Romantic starry-eyed groove.

**THE BIG MOON
TROUBLE**
In the anthemic second act from the London group's third album *Here Is Everything* (out 14 October), Juliette Jackson remembers her journey to the hospital to give birth.

**THE BIG PINK
SAFE AND SOUND**
Robbie Furze alludes to taking the long way home in a gritty but somehow classic sound. *The Love That's Ours*, their first album in 10 years, is out later this month.

**SORRY
KEY TO THE CITY**
On *Anywhere But Here* (out 7 October), Sorry's follow-up LP to their lauded debut *925*, the group's sonic patchwork is a near transcendental experience.
Giles Bidder

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Culture Fix

Your guide to the
week ahead - with
our culture editor

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The female conductors raising the roof - and the glass ceiling

On the eve of Dalia Stasevska's second stint as 'Last Night of the Proms' conductor, **Kat Lister** meets those trying to change attitudes and draw more women to the profession



Alice Farnham is reliving a joyful moment she watched on her TV screen last week. "It was so amazing to see that image of a really powerful woman," the English conductor enthuses over a video call from her home in London. "It wasn't remotely sexual - that's what was so brilliant about it."

One might assume that the image Farnham is referring to is a musical one, considering why we're both here: to discuss the changing landscape of female conductors in the UK.

But we are, in fact, talking about the England women's Euro 2022 win and the victory lap that defined it; the jubilant image of goal-scorer Chloe Kelly whipping off her sweaty shirt and helicoptering it over her head, revealing her sports bra underneath to millions watching at home.

In a world where gender inequality defies job sectors, the difference between a football and a conducting baton isn't so big. Role models matter.

When Farnham co-founded WoCo (Women Conductors) - a programme to encourage women into the profession - she did so in response to a clumsy remark. In 2013, shortly before the American conductor Marin Alsop was due to take to the podium at the Royal Albert Hall - and become the first woman ever to conduct BBC's *Last Night of the Proms* - Vasily Petrenko, then principal

conductor of the Royal Liverpool Philharmonic, said: "A cute girl on a podium means musicians think about other things." In that moment something shifted for Farnham - who had trained at the St Petersburg Conservatoire and had already carved out a successful career for herself at world-leading venues.

"Originally I thought women just didn't want to do it and I was unusual," she says. "Then I thought, 'This is terrible. Why aren't there any women and what's got to be changed?'"

Fast forward nine years and much has changed. Tomorrow, Dalia Stasevska, BBC Symphony Orchestra principal guest conductor, will return to the Proms to conduct its *Last Night* for the second time, following in the footsteps of her predecessor, Alsop. "There are way more women coming through now, younger and older," Farnham tells me.

When it comes to education, major strides have also been made. The Royal Northern College of Music (RNCM), one of the leading places in the world to study conducting, has seen a gradual increase in the number of female applicants to its post-graduate programme - so much so that in the coming academic year there will be a 50/50 gender split for the first time.

Elsewhere, at the Royal

What we're seeing in conducting is like the women's football phenomena - there are so many parallels



Clockwise from main Alice Farnham with members of WoCo; Helen Harrison conducting the Royal Northern Sinfonia; Proms conductor Dalia Stasevska
JARMO KATILA/PA

burning,” Harrison says. Gradually, over time, she signed up to courses at the The Royal Northern College of Music – first as an observer, then as a participant.

This year, Harrison was chosen to take part in a high-level course with Royal Northern Sinfonia, the orchestra of Sage Gateshead, alongside six other women.

Over a period of two years, Harrison and her fellow conductors will be given the opportunity to hone their skills with a full orchestra and mentoring from Farnham herself.

The WoCo Gateshead 2022/23 course is an exciting new chapter for female conductors, Farnham tells me. Historically speaking, women have been scared to make mistakes, fearing they’ll be more harshly criticised than their male counterparts. “We’re giving a safe platform for these conductors to try things out and take some risks,” she says.

“In the past, there’s been the idea of the maestro, you know?” conductor Lada Valešová reflects on a video call from Oxford.

“The big, tyrannical, crazy-haired person with a stick in their hand – but those times are over.” Valešová will be conducting a female-led production of Ana Sokolović’s a cappella opera *Svadba* at the Waterperry Opera Festival next week.

Over the past few years, Valešová – a fellow WoCo Gateshead conductor – has noticed a shift in mentality with the young women she’s been working with: “They don’t see why they can’t have a place here.”

When Farnham started Women Conductors nearly a decade ago, many women were too inhibited to take up space in the most literal sense of that phrase. She calls it “sharp elbows”; back straight, shoulders back, arms wide. “They could see how powerful it was but gradually they would hide themselves.”

These days, the opposite is true – a transformation that has much to do with the grassroots level initiatives that have flourished.

“Charisma is something encouraged in boys and men, but not in women as much, so it needs drawing out,” Farnham muses.

For Valešová, Harrison and others, this level of coaching has been invaluable – but there’s still so much left to achieve. “Some men feel like things are tougher for them now. And you know what? It is. Because the other half of the population are in play,” Farnham shrewdly points out.

“What I always try and get across to women is: ‘You’ve just got to give it a go,’” says Harrison.

“To look at a woman conducting and for that not to be a big deal, that’s what we’re all aiming for, isn’t it?”

Dalia Stasevska will conduct the Last Night of the Proms at Royal Albert Hall, London, tomorrow

ALBUM REVIEWS KATE SOLOMON

Sampa living up to ‘Great’ expectations

SAMPA THE GREAT

As Above So Below

★★★★★

Stream: Lo Rain, IDGAF, Mask On.

Album of the week



Sampa Tembo has set herself a high standard with her stage name, Sampa The Great. The Zambia-born, Botswana-raised, Australia-residing musician’s second album matches the confidence of her *nom de plume*, full of eclectic influences rubbing up against each other and a reverent, gospel-inspired undercurrent that pulls it all along.

As you might expect from an artist with multiple origin stories to choose between, Sampa The Great’s music mixes musical styles into an elevated form of hip-hop. Sometimes the marriage between subject and music is literal – like on the code-shifting “Mask On”, which pendulum-swings between styles.

When the mask is on, we hear sweet vocals, low-key beats and quiet “ohs”; the mask comes off and it all pops off in the form of trap bass and irate rap. It’s not the most revolutionary musical

representation of a concept but it is effective.

Sampa the Great is angry; she rails against being made to feel that she isn’t enough on the dark “Imposter Syndrome”, and on “IDGAF” she raps with concrete solidity and pointed pauses between her syllables that she “don’t give a f***”, interpolating the “no more no more no more”s of “Hit The Road, Jack”. It’s a kiss off to anyone who’s ever tried to belittle her.

This is a tightly structured record, with layer upon layer of sounds and rhythms to unpick. With Kojey Radical, Joey Bada\$\$ and Angélique Kidjo as featured artists, she seems to be saying “Let Me Be Great” (the chest-thumping, finely woven final song) across the spectrum; it’s as much about being great as it is about not being pigeonholed.

Greatness doesn’t come easy – it takes work, and Sampa is very much on her way.

OLIVER SIM

Hideous Bastard

★★★★★

Stream: Hideous, Confident Man, Romance With a Memory.



You might not know the name “Oliver Sim”, but his work has been reverberating around popular music for more than a decade. As co-lead singer of the xx, he has won the Mercury Prize, topped the charts and influenced untold artists with his band’s minimalist dance-cum-R&B. The xx have always seemed a bit of an enigma – their music is rarely about anything personal – but Sim has stepped out from the shadows and into the glaring light of radical honesty on his first solo record.

He sets the tone with the devastating title track, which features Bronski Beat’s Jimmy Somerville as a kind of guiding angel. Over a pretty string-adorned beat his low voice emerges as he asks, “On exposure to the light am I hideous?” before delving into the most revealing emotions relating to the HIV he has lived with since age 17: “Am I hideous?” he asks again.

He is the master of a gut punch lyric: “The lack of a kiss did more than a thousand” will stick with me, from “Romance With A Memory”, about an uncommitted lover whose disinterest is the main attraction.

Inspired by horror movies,

Sim has positioned himself as the creature deep down inside you telling you what you already knew but didn’t want to face – but, in a fun way?

Even when it’s dealing in the dark and miserable, *Hideous Bastard* is still a good time. Sometimes it’s a treat to wallow in the bad stuff for a second: as a queer album, it treats that line between horror and delight beautifully. On “Fruit”, Sim explores the societal shame versus love dichotomy, an anguished wail and a gunshot drum hit adding high drama.

Produced by his bandmate Jamie xx, the music is rich and glorious in its own mired-in-the-mud-of-life kind of way. That mire occasionally threatens to drag the album under – at times it feels monotonous, as Sim’s deep voice offers little in the way of harmony or range. Nothing matches the fantastic opening tracks but *Hideous Bastard* will make an excellent companion on a gloomy autumn night.

Academy of Music, the gap between undergraduate and postgraduate study is being bridged by its head of conducting, Sian Edwards, with a programme for women considering applying for a master’s in orchestral conducting in the UK or abroad.

Yet for all these gains, other statistics at job level still make an uncomfortable read. At the Royal Philharmonic Society’s last count, only two British orchestras had a female principal conductor, and only six women conductors had titled roles out of several hundred conductors on the staff of professional British orchestras. Most tellingly, only 22 of the 371 conductors represented by British agents were female – a woeful 5.5 per cent.

As we edge away from a period of headline-grabbing firsts, perhaps the real challenge now is maintaining momentum as the story becomes more nuanced, the imbalance less easy to define. “It’s not quite as rosy as it would seem,” Farnham says.

The Royal Opera House has run several courses for women conducting since 2018 – several of these she herself has taught – “but you need that translated into jobs”. Progress has been made, and many in the industry are working hard to keep things moving, but the gender ratio of women conductors in UK orchestras is still well under 10 per cent – a percentage that has been on pause for some time.

“There’s no quick fix,” she says. Anything that relies on education and training needs “time, commitment and imagination”.

“Positive action can often be



seen as tokenism,” says James Murphy, chief executive of the Royal Philharmonic Society, as we discuss the charity’s role in Farnham’s pioneering initiative. “But for those of us who have donated significant time to putting batons in women’s hands it’s a wonderful thing.”

“What we’re seeing in conducting is kind of like the women’s football phenomena,” the conductor Helen Harrison tells me, echoing Farnham’s analogy. “There are so many parallels in terms of being seen.”

Harrison’s passion for conducting was ignited when she was asked to stand up and direct the opening of Shostakovich’s *Festive Overture* when she was 16.

But when she graduated from Cambridge with a music degree in the mid-Nineties, she couldn’t see a route into the classical world that didn’t involve either playing an instrument or teaching, so she trained to be an accountant instead – all the while playing in orchestras.

“It kept burning, it kept



THIS WEEK'S *Ten to watch*

Chosen by
Emily Baker

1 MUNICH GAMES TONIGHT, 9PM, SKY ATLANTIC/ STREAMING ON NOW

In this thriller, set 50 years after the real-life Munich massacre, an attack in which a Palestinian terror group killed two of Israel's Olympic team and took nine others hostage at the 1972 Munich games, Germany and Israel have organised a football match to commemorate the anniversary. But when security forces discover a terrifying threat indicating intent to attack the game, it falls to the Israeli and German security teams to protect the attendees – and each other – from harm.

2 MORTIMER & WHITEHOUSE: GONE FISHING

Five series in and Paul Whitehouse and Bob Mortimer's fishing adventures still makes for excellent TV. This time they're in the South East of England, starting their trip on the river Exe in Devon. Grilse is the catch of the day, otherwise known as the "summer silver", but there's still time for a game of cricket and lots of larking about.

3 MARTIN COMPSTON'S SCOTTISH FLING

TONIGHT, 9.30PM, BBCTWO
Line of Duty actor Martin Compston shows off his undying love for his country as he traverses Scotland's west coast with his mate and TV presenter Phil MacHugh. First stop is Compston's hometown of

Greenock, where they meet up with fellow Scot, Drag Race UK winner Lawrence Chaney, before heading to Loch Lomond for a spot of rambling.

4 THE SERPENT QUEEN

SUNDAY, STARZPLAY
Samantha Morton stars as 16th-century

French queen Catherine de Medici in this sumptuous period drama. As a 16-year-old, Catherine was shipped from Italy to France to marry the future King Henry II and promptly fell in love. But when she finds out he's having an affair with a (much) older woman, she shuts down her emotions and dedicates her life to becoming a powerful, sometimes ruthless ruler.

5 FROZEN PLANET II

SUNDAY, 8PM,
BBCONE
More than 10 years since

the original *Frozen Planet* docuseries, David Attenborough returns with an update on how the polar bears and their cold-weather friends are getting on. Unsurprisingly, the answer is "not very well" given that the climate crisis has accelerated the decimation of their habitat. The first episode of six takes us to Antarctica, where emperor penguins and killer whales fight for survival.

6 SIMON REEVE'S SOUTH AMERICA

SUNDAY, 9PM, BBCTWO

Simon Reeve has one of the most enviable jobs on the planet. In this new series, he's travelling the length and breadth of South America, meeting the people who make up one of the most diverse and rapidly changing continents on Earth. He starts in Venezuela,

where thousands of migrants are fleeing due to economic collapse, before heading to the only English-speaking country in South America, Guyana.

7 THE GREAT BRITISH BAKE OFF

TUESDAY, 8PM,
CHANNEL 4 It's back! Twelve new amateur bakers step into the famed Welford Park tent for the first time, hoping to impress judges Paul Hollywood and Prue Leith. As is tradition, we kick off with cake week, and the signature is simple enough: 12 perfect mini cakes, please. But as ever, things get a little more difficult when the bakers are asked to create a scaled-down version of a home close to their hearts entirely from sponge.

8 MINX WEDNESDAY, PARAMOUNT+

As a big fan of Jake Johnson (better known as Nick in *New*

Girl), I've been waiting for this comedy to arrive on a British streaming platform since it

premiered in the States last March. He plays

Doug, a low-rent publisher who teams up with an determined feminist, Joyce Prigger (Ophelia Lovibond, *Guardians of the Galaxy*) to create the world's first porn magazine for women.

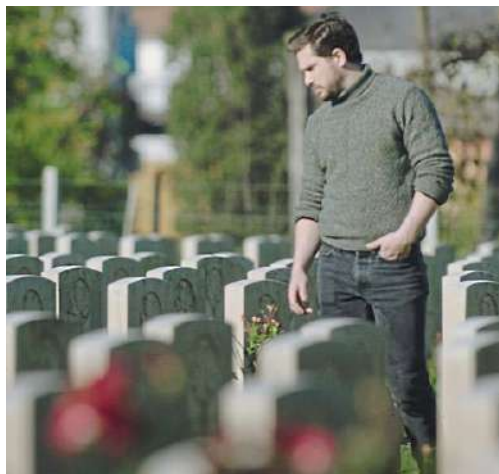
9 NATIONAL TELEVISION AWARDS THURSDAY, 8PM, ITV

Joel Dommett once again hosts the NTAs, this time from Wembley's OVO Arena. As the only TV awards show voted entirely by the public, the winners are usually a little different to the usual industry-led evenings (remember when *Fleabag* lost out to *Mrs Brown's Boys*?). The most exciting category is New Drama, in which will *Heartstopper*, *Trigger Point*, *Time* and *This Is Going to Hurt* go head to head.

10 MY GRANDPARENTS' WAR THURS, 9PM, CHANNEL 4

Game of Thrones actor Kit Harington is the first celebrity to retrace his grandparents' war experiences in this second series of the historical docuseries. In the Second World War, Harington's grandfather John served in the Naval Intelligence unit alongside James Bond writer Ian Fleming before being recruited into MI5 and MI6, while his grandmother, Lavender, worked at an intelligence compound known as "the Bletchley Park of the Caribbean".

Clockwise from
main The new
'Great British
Bake Off'
contestants; Paul
Whitehouse and
Bob Mortimer;
Kit Harington
at the Monte
Cassino War
Cemetery in
Italy; Samantha
Morton as
Catherine de
Medici; Simon
Reeve MARK
BOURDILLON/LOVE





PICTURE OF THE WEEK Julia Roberts (left), George Clooney and Amal Clooney attend the "Ticket To Paradise" World Film Premiere at Odeon Luxe in London LIA TOBY/GETTY

Life lessons include sticking to the script



FICTION
LESSONS
Ian McEwan
(Jonathan Cape, £20)

Review by Max Liu

At 74, Ian McEwan has written his longest novel. Three years after his silly and slight Kafka-pastiche *The Cockroach*, the heft of *Lessons* looks designed to signal a return to seriousness for McEwan and, hopefully, a return to form after his disappointing novels of the past decade or so.

Lessons follows Roland Baines from his schooldays in the early-1960s into old age during the Covid-19 pandemic. Roland, like McEwan, was born in Aldershot in the late-1940s and his father was in the army. Roland drifts through life, playing the piano in a hotel bar, coaching tennis, dabbling in poetry. He may be McEwan's vision of how his life might have unfolded had he not had the discipline and talent to become one of the most significant English novelists of his generation.

One crucial difference between author and protagonist is that Roland is scarred by the sexual

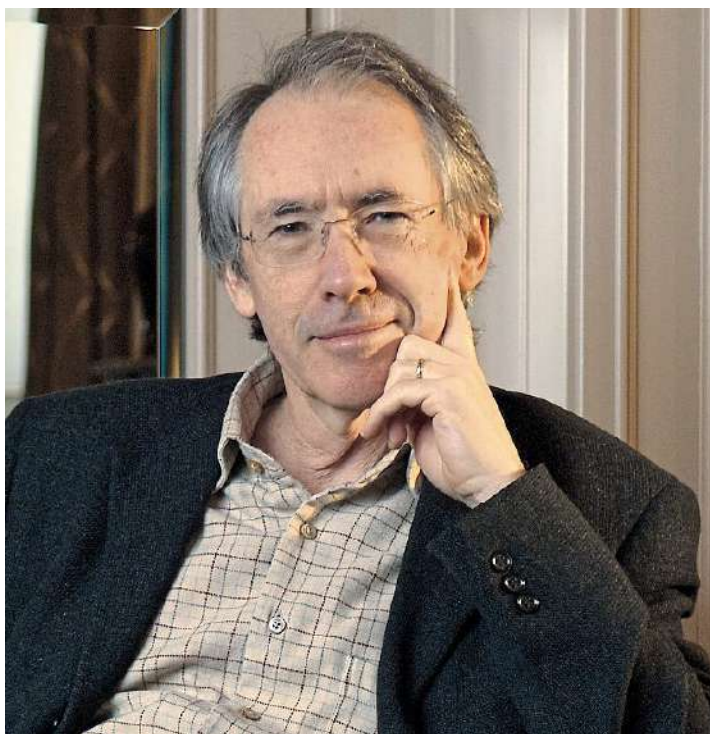
abuse he suffered at the hands of his young piano teacher, Miriam Cornell, when he was a teenager.

McEwan handles this topic intelligently, with Roland initially enjoying Miriam's attention: "To be enveloped like this was sudden unexpected bliss."

Invoking Flaubert's classic coming of age novel, Roland regards the experience as a "sentimental education" and takes decades to understand that what Miriam did to him was abuse. Nevertheless, other characters notice: "He's got problems in his past he won't even think about."

This observation is made by Roland's wife Alissa, who vanishes in 1986, leaving him alone with their seven-month-old son. It turns out Alissa has gone back to her native Germany, where she will become a feted novelist. In south London, meanwhile, the novel trawls through decades with Roland ageing among an archetypal boomer milieu: "Daphne, like Roland, disliked and on occasions loathed the Thatcher government but, like him, she was prospering under its edicts." The diction is awkward, characters flatly familiar, events predictable.

Reading *Lessons*, I tried to suppress the suspicion that McEwan had written a long novel simply to show that he had the stamina. His



Curious Ian McEwan seems to be imagining a life without being an author

Booker Prize winning *Amsterdam* (1998) and his celebrated *Atonement* (2001) were distinguished by, among other things, his unshowy prose style. By contrast, *Lessons* feels self-indulgent and under-edited and, as it goes on, the prob-

lems mount. The final part is full of death and decrepitude and, while McEwan writes convincingly about the body's deterioration ("Falling, in showers, out of bathtubs, on pavements, over carpet edges, off buses, down slopes was

how many among the old started to die"), narrative drive is the real casualty.

Roland wisely reflects: "In surveying a life it was inadvisable to acknowledge too much defeat," and it is in these kinds of observations that the novel is at its strongest. But Roland's story would have been more affecting had McEwan stuck to telling it and let history take care of itself.

Instead, McEwan interrupts with unnecessary historical context ("In the new year, 2021, in a post-solstice eclipse, the third lockdown began, the US president was replaced amid turmoil and at midnight on 31 January Europe was left behind...") and jibes about Brexit, Christianity, Islam and trans rights. "Freedom of expression was in retreat and digital public spaces resounded with the shouts of delirious masses..." thinks Roland, echoing views McEwan has expressed in articles and interviews.

This is a curious novel and one of the oddest things about reading it is seeing McEwan abandon the qualities – brevity, subtlety, strangeness – that made his great works resonant, in favour of slack writing, didacticism and received wisdom. The lesson is that about some things it is better not to change your mind.

ALSO RELEASED



FICTION
TI AMO
Hanne Ørstavik, translated by Martin Aitken
(And Other Stories, £11.99)

Ti Amo might seem an odd title for a book written by a Norwegian author. But the unnamed narrator of Hanne Ørstavik's new novella, translated by Martin Aitken, is addressing her Italian husband: "I love you."

"We say it to each other all the time. We say it instead of saying something else," the narrator writes at the start of Ørstavik's 15th book.

That *Ti Amo* is no saccharine ode to devotion will surprise no one who read 2019's *Love*, Ørstavik's last book to be published in the UK. That book, about a mother and a son, was a devastating tale about a lack of love rather than anything more sentimental.

The first twist with *Ti Amo* is that the much-loved husband, who was her Italian publisher, has cancer. With talk of death forbidden, the narrator, a

writer, wonders what else she could say.

"What would that something else be?"

"You: I'm dying."

"Us: Don't leave me."

"Me: I don't know what to do... I love you."

The second twist is that Ørstavik's husband, Luigi Spagnol, who was also her Italian publisher, died in June 2020 after a long illness.

It's tempting to read *Ti Amo* as autofiction, if not memoir – especially as the narrator travels to Mexico for a book fair with her novel, *Amor* – but her UK publisher is branding this as fiction.

In *Ti Amo*, Ørstavik explores what it means to feel like the third wheel in a relationship consumed with pain.

When a mutual friend tells the narrator "it's hard for the one who's ill but much worse in a way for the one who isn't", the narrator tears up. "It's just so seldom anyone ever talks to me or asks how I am." She captures hauntingly the sense of someone slipping away as the clock ticks down on their death.

A translator herself, Ørstavik has said she finds it "absolutely horrible" to have her books translated, but she is in safe hands with Aitken, who was also responsible for *Love* and *The Pastor*, which is available in the US but has yet to come out here.

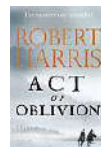
If you consider the hoops through which foreign fiction has to fly before making it into a British bookshop, fiction in translation should be the first thing any devoted reader grabs.

But it often still feels like an afterthought. Ørstavik has said all her novels are somehow connected, something new arising from what came before.

Which makes the third twist in *Ti Amo*, that the narrator falls for a mystery man while at her Mexican book fair, all the more welcome for readers wishing this novella had been longer.

When the narrator asks, in the closing pages, "Where do I go from here?" there is hope of a future for her, and for Ørstavik's worldwide fans – hope of more books from this most skilful of writers.

Susie Mesure



HISTORICAL FICTION
ACT OF OBLIVION
Robert Harris (Hutchinson Heinemann, £22)

The year is 1660 and two English colonels are on the run in America accused of the murder of Charles I and facing the death penalty. Billed as the greatest manhunt of the 17th century, *Act of Oblivion* does not disappoint. Harris breathes life into historical events as they may have played out, through his beautifully crafted characters. He also achieves what historians often fail to in remembering the stoic women left behind to fend for themselves and take care of their families. A gripping thriller and a timely reminder of the dangers of a deeply divided and intolerant society.

Emily Pennink



NON-FICTION
HYSTERICAL
Pragya Agarwal
(Canongate, £16.99)

Why are women seen as the emotional sex? Behavioural scientist Pragya Agarwal tackles the question in her enlightening book *Hysterical*. Drawing upon history, data and pop culture, she explores the nuances behind gendered emotions – how they came about, how our society's

deeply ingrained stereotypes reinforce them, and how they harm both women and men. A mother of twin girls, Agarwal is at her best when relating the impact of gendered emotion in her own life, and makes insightful culture references such as the Pixar film *Inside Out*. Why indeed are anger and fear portrayed by male characters, and joy, sadness and disgust by females?

Prudence Wade



FICTION
FAIRYTALE
Stephen King
(Hodder & Stoughton, £22)

A boy, his dog, and a shed that hides a portal to a parallel universe – Stephen King's *Fairy Tale* is a modern take on *Jack and the Beanstalk*, peppered with a myriad of classic fairy tale legends. After inheriting the shed, the secret and Radar the dog from an old recluse, 17-year-old Charlie descends into the world of Empis, where two moons fill the sky and the Grey plague is killing the population. *Fairy Tale* is brimming with folklore reimagined through King's expert imagination. In true fairy tale tradition, King's latest fantasy novel is a story of good versus evil, and Charlie must help the people of Empis escape the tyrannical rule of the Flight Killer.

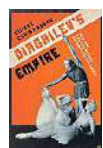
Rebecca Wilcock

Top 5 Books

1. **The Ink Black Heart: Cormoran Strike** Robert Galbraith (Sphere)
2. **Babel: An Arcane History** RF Kuang (Harper Voyager)
3. **One: Simple One-Pan Wonders** Jamie Oliver (Michael Joseph)
4. **Carrie Soto Is Back** Taylor Jenkins Reid (Hutchinson Heinemann)
5. **It Ends With Us** Colleen Hoover (Simon & Schuster)

SOURCE: WATERSTONES' TOP HARDBACK FICTION & NON-FICTION TITLES

Man of inspired hunches



NON-FICTION
DIAGHILEV'S EMPIRE
Rupert Christiansen
(Faber, £25)

Review by Michael Church

Here, says the author at the outset, is a book by an addict. And here is a review by a recovered sufferer from the same malady, though I'm still a sucker for revivals of Ballets Russes classics like *Apollo*, *Les Noces* and *The Rite of Spring*. And I found this colourful history of the brilliant dance company that took Paris, London and New York by storm between 1909 and 1930, very hard to put down. Launched in St Petersburg, it got its French name to mark its first tour abroad.

It's no exaggeration for Rupert Christiansen to say its progenitor Sergei Diaghilev used it to create the ideal shop window for the innovations of Stravinsky, Picasso, and the whole modernist movement. Their choreography, based on abstract rigour and an up-front sexuality, heralded an excitingly dangerous emotional world to eclipse past sentimental pageantry and decorous romanticism.



Hooked Sergei Diaghilev (left) with leading man Léonide Massine GETTY

Christiansen begins with a quick history of the evolution of public taste in dance, making it clear that sex has always been a key component. He ends with an account of the dance world after Diaghilev's premature death in 1929, with heroic survivors like Marie Rambert carrying the torch while sub-groups fought over his legacy.

But the essence of this book lies in the story of how Diaghilev built his empire from scratch, living precariously from hand to mouth yet presiding over a string of masterpieces, each of which is described in detail.

Diaghilev was an awkward provincial, but as an impresario he

had indomitable persuasiveness, and his hunches were inspired. Those hunches were primarily about people, starting with the school friends who became the permanent nucleus of his company, and continuing with his discovery of Vaslav Nijinsky, the fabled "Clown of God".

Nijinsky, who was autistic and succumbed to paranoid schizophrenia at 30, was a genius dancer and choreographer. And with him, Diaghilev established a pattern that he would later follow with other leading male dancers: he took Nijinsky under his wing, and into his bed, but artistically he gave the 20-year-old free rein.

Dramatically, Nijinsky could

range from ultra-virility to ineffable sweetness, but he also had a gravity-defying jump: "You just need to go up and hang there a little," he would say modestly, of his airborne exit in Jean-Louis Vaudoyer's short ballet *Le spectre de la rose*. And he was happy to shock, with provocatively revealing costumes, and choreographing an explicit masturbation at the climax of *L'après-midi d'un faune*. It's inexplicable that nobody thought to film him during his glory days from 1909 to 1917.

Christiansen's prose is racy and at times metaphor-clogged, but this extraordinary saga almost invites such treatment, with endless spats between designers, and fights between dancers, which Christiansen gravely adjudicates. One by one we meet his remarkable dramatis personae – ballerinas like Pavlova, Karsavina, and Lopokova, leading men like Massine, Lifar, Dolin, and Kochno – each being an irrepressible personality, with a blazing talent to match.

It was de rigueur for European dancers to Russify their names during the Twenties and Thirties, so fashionable were these starry creatures. Alicia Marks became Alicia Markova, Patrick Healey-Kay became Andon Dolin. The Bloomsbury Group were among their most besotted fans, with one dancer – Lydia Lopokova – even marrying into it. When they were looking for a safe financial haven, Monte Carlo gladly opened its arms and welcomed them in as residents.

The key message of this very enjoyable book is that Diaghilev's creations were a gift that kept on giving. Did any other addiction ever bear such wondrous fruit?



ONE MINUTE WITH...

Jason Reynolds,
author

Where are you now and what can you see?

I'm on *The Floating Front Room* boat in Birmingham. It's part of the amazing Civic Square community project, for which I'm about to do an event.

What are you currently reading?

Manorism by Yomi Sode – it's not published yet but I was given an early copy. I'm also reading *The Swimmers* by Julia Otsuka. I love that the whole first half of the book just describes people in the swimming pool. I find it a brilliant exploration of form.

Who is your favourite author and why do you admire them?

Jasmyn Ward. She has the perfect ratio of the science and soul of writing, so her work feels both experiential and expert. I'm inspired by her ability to organise a story – she takes big ideas and structures stories in a way that feels inviting. She knows how to take tough topics and write them in a way in which each character who's experiencing the trauma is heard and understood – a master of expressing humanity. She's been called the heir to Toni Morrison, and I believe that.

Describe the room where you usually write...

These days it's on a 40ft turquoise banquette. There are large photographs from the 1970s of young West African couples kissing behind me on the wall and a 100-year-old piano in front of me, and about 10 Moroccan rugs layered on the floor.

Which fictional character most resembles you?

The little boy in a book called *Love That Dog* by Sharon Creech. He's young and doesn't want to write, but when he does he loves it and feels powerful.

Who is your hero from outside literature?

My mother. She's perfect. Except she's not perfect. Which is perfect.

Jason Reynolds' *Oxygen Mask* is published by Faber Children's, at £9.99; *Stuntboy, in the Meantime* is published by Knights Of, at £7.99



TARAN WILKHU

COFFEE
TABLE
CHOICE

Luxury homes born from an industrial past In 2017 architects Wilkinson Eyre reimagined Gasholders, in King's Cross, which is one of the projects included in a new book by Harriet Thorpe and photographer Taran Wilkhut celebrating designers responsible for creating a lasting legacy for the most sustainable buildings in London. A range of the best examples from across the capital are highlighted in London-based writer Thorpe's book, published by Hoxton Mini Press. 'The Sustainable City: London's Greenest Architecture' is out now, priced at £30.

Quote of the day



[Jacob] Rees-Mogg will have to do the steepest learning curve in history as he gets to grips with the issues facing our country

Rebecca Newsom
Head of politics for
Greenpeace UK on the
new Business Secretary



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BANKING

European Central Bank ups interest rates in eurozone

By Laurie Havelock
MONEY & BUSINESS REPORTER

The European Central Bank (ECB) has raised interest rates by 75 basis points in a bid to curb inflation across the eurozone, even as soaring energy prices send prices up even further.

The move, which equals the ECB's previous largest increase in borrowing costs, will send the bank's benchmark deposit rate up to 0.75 per cent and the main refinancing rate to 1.25 per cent, both at their highest levels since 2011.

It comes after many central banks around the world, including the US Fed and the Bank of England, have rapidly risen rates to stimulate growth in their economies.

Further increases will follow shortly after more meetings, though such large rises will not be "the norm",

the bank's president, Christine Lagarde, said.

"We think it will take several meetings," she said. "How many is several? It's probably more than two, including this one, but it's probably also going to be less than five," she added, suggesting that rate hikes could continue into early 2023.

Eurozone inflation jumped to 9.1 per cent in August, according to Eurostat's flash projections. The ECB's own modelling predicts a peak near this level just before the end of the

year, even if some market analysts see it rising past 10 per cent soon.

Meanwhile, the ECB's growth projections, which were sharply cut for next year, expect economic stagnation over the winter months, with factors like the loss of Russian gas supplies having a significant effect on economies.

Ms Lagarde also warned that there was only so much the bank could do, saying inflation was "still predominantly a supply driven-phenomenon" affected by factors beyond the ECB's control. She said: "I cannot reduce the price of energy. I cannot convince the big players to reduce gas prices. I cannot reform the electricity market."

"I am very pleased to see that the European Commission is considering steps to that effect because monetary policy is not going to reduce the price of energy."



The ECB has predicted that inflation will continue at 5.5 per cent in 2023 across the Eurozone, before falling to 2.3 per cent in 2024 – some way above its 2 per cent target.



Ms Lagarde said there was only so much the bank was able to do

Carsten Brzeski, chief economist at ING Germany, said that the historic move showed that the ECB was serious about curbing inflation. "It is clear that the ECB has given up on inflation targeting and forecasting and has joined the group of central banks focusing on bringing down actual inflation," he said.

"It's not so much a new strategy based on conviction but rather a strategy based on missing alternatives."

CONSUMER

Government must keep electric cars ticking over

By Neil Lancefield

Demand for electric cars is at risk of stalling due to a lack of affordable models and high energy prices.

A report by consumer website Electrifying.com stated that there are just seven new electric cars on sale in the UK for under £30,000.

That compares with 107 petrol or diesel cars in the same price bracket.

The analysis also found that the amount of money saved by running an electric car instead of a petrol model has reduced in recent months as energy prices have spiralled and pump prices fell from record highs.

Figures from the Society of Motor Manufacturers and Traders show the increase in sales of new pure electric cars has slowed in recent months.

The number of registrations during the first three months of the year was 102 per cent more than during the same period in 2021. At the end of August, the year-to-date increase had fallen to 49 per cent.

Electrifying.com founder and CEO Ginny Buckley said electric cars are "firmly embedded in the UK's car-buying habits" but warned that drivers are "paying more" to make the switch from petrol and diesel.

"The choice of affordable cars is dwindling and, unless you're charging on a cheap night-time tariff, you'll now barely notice the savings."

"We need the Government to step in immediately to incentivise drivers to make the switch," she said.

Ms Buckley said interest-free loans to purchase used electric cars – such as those available in Scotland – should be rolled out across the UK.



The 30 Second Briefing



ENGLISH AND WELSH WINE

Raise your glasses please.

A survey by the Wines of Great Britain (WineGB), the national association for the English and Welsh wine industry, has revealed a rise of 31 per cent in year-on-year sales in 2021, and an overall rise of 69 per cent from 2019 to 2021. Direct-to-consumer sales were up a

cork-popping 265 per cent over the past two years.

Let the good vines grow.

There are now 3,758 hectares under vine in England and Wales with 879 vineyards and 197 wineries (195 in England, 2 in Wales), employing more than 10,000 workers. Hectarage has grown by 70 per cent in just five years, quadrupling in size since 2000. Chardonnay is the most planted grape variety (1,179 hectares), followed by Pinot Noir (1,164 hectares) and Pinot Meunier (327 hectares).

Grapes not hops.

Chapel Down (pictured, above) in Kent is the UK's biggest winery and

this year it returned to profit after selling a record 1.5 million bottles of wine and spirits in 2021.

Tipple tourism anyone?

Simon Thorpe, the CEO of WineGB, says: "A key factor in the shape of the industry which perhaps was not foreseen pre-pandemic is the stratospheric rise in the importance of wine tourism and the direct-to-consumer sales channel."

"The growing importance of cellar door looks set to continue, with a recent VisitBritain survey suggesting 42 per cent of inbound tourists would enjoy a visit to a winery. With international travel opening up, this will dovetail well with exposure in overseas markets."

INSURANCE

Lloyd's sets aside £1bn for claims due to Ukraine war

By Anna Wise

Insurance market Lloyd's of London has set aside more than £1bn to cover insurance claims from the Ukraine war as the leading insurance market flagged a challenging year of natural disasters, high inflation and geopolitical challenges.

Lloyd's has put aside £1.1bn of re-insurance for customers impacted by the war, having previously warned investors that the Ukraine conflict will be a major claim on the group.

It said it was hit by planes being grounded and ships stranded as a result of the conflict – not long after suffering the impacts of the pandemic.

Lloyd's stressed that any claims would be manageable and not create solvency challenges for the group.

Half-year figures showed the marketplace swung to a loss in the first half of the year, posting a deficit of £1.8bn against a £1.4bn profit made at the same time last year.

Rising interest rates saw an investment loss of more than £3bn in the first half, dragging down its profits, but the market will begin to benefit from higher rates in 2023, Lloyd's said.

Lloyd's has provided insurance for ships carrying food from Ukrainian Black Sea ports since July, helping to release millions of tons of grain trapped in the invaded country.



Lloyd's has provided insurance for grain ships leaving Ukraine ANADOLU AGENCY/GETTY

It has also played a role in imposing sanctions on Russia by working with governments and regulators around the world.

John Neal, Lloyd's chief executive, said: "With political and economic uncertainty looming large over society, it's more important than ever that insurers are ready to support."

He said insurers had taken proactive steps to protect customers from the fallout of the Ukraine conflict while "ensuring we can support them – and continue driving sustainable

performance – through the uncertain times ahead."

Lloyd's underwriting profits improved this year, hitting £1.2bn compared with £960m in the first six months of 2021.



Lloyd's said all its staff earning less than £75,000 would be **granted a one-off £2,500 cost of living payment** to help them through challenging times.

RETAIL

Competition concerns in takeover of McColl's chain

By David Connatt

Morrisons' takeover of convenience store chain McColl's will create competition concerns in a small number of areas, the competition watchdog has decided.

The finding by the Competition and Markets Authority (CMA) opens the way for the £190m rescue deal.

The CMA said its investigation found concerns in 35 local areas where the two brands competed but concluded the overall deal "would not harm the vast majority of shoppers or other businesses".

Morrisons agreed in May to buy McColl's after the 1,100-store chain fell into administration.

The supermarket had an existing agreement with McColl's under which 270 of its shops operated as Morrisons Daily outlets.

Morrisons has five days to submit proposals to resolve the CMA's issues, and the CMA can take a further five days to consider.

If the CMA decides the proposals are unsatisfactory it can choose to carry out an in-depth investigation.

Sorcha O'Carroll, of the CMA, said: "As the cost of living soars, it's particularly important that shops are facing proper competition so that customers get the best prices possible when picking up essentials or doing the weekly shop."

"While the vast majority of shoppers and other businesses won't lose out, we're concerned that the deal could lead to higher prices for people in some areas."

"If Morrisons and McColl's can address these concerns, then we won't need to move on to an in-depth investigation."



From the business pages

Russian oil intake in India up to 13%

The Times of India

India's importation of Russian oil is part of its inflation-management system, finance minister Nirmala Sitharaman said. India has not condemned Russia's invasion of Ukraine but called for a diplomatic solution. India's crude oil shipments from Russia have jumped to 12-13 per cent from 2 per cent before then. She said India's Prime Minister, Narendra Modi, deserved credit for balancing trade.

Bid to keep energy plants open longer

The Irish Times

The Irish government is in talks with the EU about keeping coal and oil-burning electricity generators operating past their scheduled closing dates over the next three years. The State intends keeping the coal-burning Moneypoint power plant and the fuel-oil Tarbert electricity generators open past their scheduled closing dates in 2025 and 2023.

Plans to regulate cooking gas prices

The Nation

Kenya plans to introduce new regulations on the pricing of cooking gas by June next year, adding to the list of petroleum-based products whose prices are set by the Energy and Petroleum Regulatory Authority (Epra). Unlike petrol, diesel and kerosene prices, adjusted on a monthly basis, cooking gas prices are not controlled.

Bank cools hopes of interest rate fall

Valor Econômico

Brazil's Central Bank has tried to cool expectations it will reduce the country's key interest rate as early as the first quarter of 2023. The fact that short-term inflation slowed and commodity prices dropped in the international market fuelled hopes of an early interest rate cut. Bank president Roberto Campos Neto said it was not thinking about lowering interest rates at this moment and may still need to raise them.

HOSPITALITY

Restaurant Group enjoys post-pandemic profit

By David Connatt

The owners of chains Wagamama, Frankie & Benny's and Chiquito said their restaurants revelled in the post-pandemic reopening, reporting a near doubling of sales to £423.4m for the first half of the year.

The Restaurant Group (TRG), which operates a total of 423 restaurants, said it recorded a pre-tax profit of £10.2m in the first six months compared with a £19.9m loss last year.

Wagamama enjoyed an 11 per cent increase in sales, with approval for its new vegan menu, while Frankie

& Benny's sales were up 2 per cent. TRG said it was "fully hedging" its energy costs for the next three years and claimed to be 80 per cent hedged for the first three quarters of 2023.

It estimates it would pay between £25m to £40m more next year on energy costs had it not been hedged.

INVESTMENT

Union claims Royal Mail in 'takeover' talks

By Holly William

The Royal Mail has denied trade union claims that it is in "secret talks" over a possible sale to private equity as workers stage fresh strikes in a row over pay and conditions.

The group said it has held "no such talks" as suggested by the Communication Workers Union (CWU).

Royal Mail said: "We are aware that in recent media interviews, Dave Ward, general secretary of the CWU, has indicated that we are in 'secret talks' with a private equity investment group, he believes, regarding a takeover of Royal Mail."

"The company wishes to make clear this is not true. We are involved in no such talks."

It comes as workers started a 48-hour walkout set to disrupt postal services, with a further 48-hour stoppage also planned from 30 September unless the group can reach agreement with trade unions.

Mr Ward had reportedly called for an investigation into bosses' conduct at Royal Mail after claiming they had held secret discussions with Luxembourg-based private equity firm Vesa Equity Investment, which is its largest shareholder.

The Government is carrying out a national security review into the ownership of Royal Mail after it emerged last month that Vesa Equity – controlled by Czech billionaire Daniel Kretinsky – had raised its stake to more than 25 per cent from 22 per cent previously.

AUDITING

Ernst & Young to split businesses

By David Connatt

Ernst & Young (EY) is to split its consulting and auditing businesses into two companies, as it looks to ease regulatory concerns over potential conflicts of interest.

EY's planned split would divide its \$45bn (£39bn) revenue global network roughly 60:40 between the consulting business and the audit-focused partnership, which would retain the EY brand.

Caroline Di Sibio (*inset*), EY's global chairman and chief executive, is scheduled to tell the firm's 13,000 partners a break-up

plan has been approved by the company's leaders.

EY, one of the "Big Four" accounting firms, along with Deloitte, KPMG and PricewaterhouseCoopers, face mounting concern their advisory services could undermine their independent audit abilities. The split would mark the biggest shake-up in the sector since the Arthur Andersen collapse.

Auditing and accounting regulator, the Financial Reporting Council, asked the Big Four firms to separate auditing as a standalone business in Britain by June 2024.



CONSUMER

Primark owner warns profits will be lower

By David Connnett

Primark owner Associated British Foods (ABF) warned that profits will be lower as rising energy costs and the strength of the US dollar will hit the business.

The consumer group said Primark, the main profit driver of the business, was facing unprecedented volatility and its operating margin will fall next year.

The company said it will freeze prices due to the pressure its customers were under as a result of the cost of living crisis.

It said it will work to remove costs from the business and also had plans to "improve store labour efficiency and deliver lower operating costs".

In a statement, the company said: "Against this current volatile backdrop and a context of likely much reduced disposable consumer income, we have decided not to implement further price increases next year beyond those already actioned and planned.

"We believe this decision is in the best interests of Primark

and supports our core proposition of everyday affordability and price leadership."

The group said it expected to increase sales as a result of its store expansion plans with Primark sales rising by 40 per cent to £7.7bn for the current financial year which ends in mid-September.

UK sales were strong but it reported "weaker than expected" results in Europe so far.

ABF's food business, which includes brands such as Twinings, Ryvita and Patak's sauces, saw higher sales growth year on year. Twinings sales saw "a return to more normal levels of demand" after a pandemic boost when shoppers spending more time at home during the pandemic bought its teas.

Its Allied Bakeries business, which makes Kingsmill bread, reported higher sales but losses mounted due to "significantly higher costs for wheat, energy and distribution".

Primark said it was on track to launch the UK trial of its click-and-collect service in the run-up to Christmas.



Primark will freeze its prices despite increased energy costs and the strength of the US dollar
REUTERS

RETAIL

The Entertainer to open concessions

The Entertainer, the UK's largest independent toy retailer, says it to open branded concessions in 35 Tesco stores across the country in a trial partnership. The toy retailer said it planned to run free events and character visits for children. Its founder, Gary Grant, called it a "new and innovative way to bring the wonder of The Entertainer to customers."

PROPERTY

Home enquiries fall by almost 40%

Enquiries from new home buyers fell last month by nearly 40 per cent, said the Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors, adding it was the weakest buyer demand reported since April 2020. Despite falling demand, 53 per cent of estate agents said house prices continued to rise. Tenant demand rose to 50 per cent (from 43 per cent in July).

SECURITY

Darktrace talks end with no deal

Cyber security firm Darktrace said its takeover negotiations with US investment group Thoma Bravo had ended without agreement. Darktrace also announced a net profit of \$1.5m (£1.3m) in the year to end of June, compared to last year's \$145.8m loss. Revenues rose 45.7 per cent to \$415.5m as it increased the number of customers by nearly a third.

PROPERTY

Receiver to seize Evergrande HQ

Lenders of struggling Chinese property developer Evergrande Group appointed a receiver to seize its Hong Kong headquarters, it was reported. The world's most indebted developer has liabilities of more than \$300bn (£261bn). The firm has been trying to sell its 26-storey Hong Kong base after a potential \$1.7bn deal failed last year. It declined to comment.

AUTOMOTIVE

Melrose wants to split from GKN

Melrose Industries wants to spin off the historic GKN automotive business as a separate UK-listed company four years after its controversial £8bn takeover. The demerger would see its vehicle drive and metallurgy arms separate from GKN's aerospace business. The new company would trade on the London Stock Exchange in 2023 subject to approval.

ONLINE

Cazoo to pull out of Europe for UK

Online car seller Cazoo says it plans to pull out of European markets to focus on its core UK market. It said it would start an orderly wind-down of its operations in Germany and Spain and was in consultation with staff in France and Italy. Its European withdrawal would result in £100m savings by end of 2023 and ensure a strong balance sheet.



Puzzle solutions

Dominoes

2	5	5	5	1	4	6
2	4	3	3	1	6	0
1	0	2	5	0	2	2
4	2	4	6	1	0	0
6	6	1	4	0	2	5
3	0	1	3	6	5	6
4	4	3	2	3	4	0

Binary

0	0	1	1	0	1	1	0	0	1
0	1	1	0	1	0	0	1	1	0
1	0	0	1	1	0	1	1	0	0
0	0	1	1	0	1	0	0	1	1
0	1	0	0	1	0	1	1	0	1
1	1	0	0	1	1	0	0	1	0
1	0	1	1	0	0	1	1	0	0
0	1	1	0	0	1	1	0	0	1
1	1	0	0	1	0	0	1	1	0
1	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	1	1

Yesterday's Codeword 3357

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
R	K	O	M	A	F	W	B	C	H	Y	P	V
14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
D	N	X	L	U	G	I	T	Q	E	S	J	Z

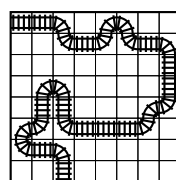
Journey Finder

1	4	3	2	4	3
2	3	4	1	4	2
2	1	4	1	3	1
1	3	2	2	4	1
4	4	1	3	4	2
3	2	3	2	1	3

Number Hexagon

		4	6	5		
	2	7	1	2	7	
	5	8	3	4	8	3
5	6	1	2	7	1	2
	2	7	4	6	5	4
1	5	2	1	7	2	1
	8	6	3	4	8	
	2	1	9			

Train Tracks



Zygolex

LEFT TO RIGHT:
ideal; bongo; rear;
sum; real; drum;
true; **trug**; drug; glue;
dope; glee; pope;
paste; done

Word Wheel

NINE-LETTER WORD grounding

OTHER WORDS dig, dingo, dog, doing, dong, droning, drug, dug, dung, during, gig, gin, gird, giro, gnu, god, going, gong, gourd, grid, grin, grind, groin, ground, gun, nudging, rig, ring, rounding, rug, rung, undoing, urging

Number Square

4	-	7	+	3	-1
+	-	-	+	-	-
5	x	8	+	2	20
x	-	x	+	+	-
9	x	1	-	6	3
81	-1	11	-	-	-

Daily Quiz

- Chinese Girl
- Percy Grainger
- 1948
- JRR Tolkien

Word Ladder

SEAL	TEAM
SELL	BEAM
SILL	BEAK
SILT	BECK
SIFT	BUCK
RIFT	LUCK

idoku

1	8	9	7	3	4	2	6	5
2	7	6	9	5	8	3	1	4
3	5	4	1	2	6	7	9	8
7	3	1	8	4	2	6	5	9
5	6	8	3	9	7	1	4	2
9	4	2	6	1	5	8	7	3
8	1	3	5	7	9	4	2	6
4	9	7	2	6	3	5	8	1
6	2	5	4	8	1	9	3	7

Sudoku

7	4	5	1	6	2	3	9	8
1	8	6	3	9	4	7	2	5
9	3	2	5	8	7	6	4	1
2	1	4	7	5	3	8	6	9
8	5	3	9	4	6	1	7	2
6	7	9	8	2	1	4	5	3
4	2	8	6	3	5	9	1	7
5	9	1	4	7	8	2	3	6
3	6	7	2	1	9	5	8	4

Kakuro

			16	24		3	19		
		16		9	7	8	1	7	
		15							10
		24	9	7	8	14	2	9	3
10		17	8	2	16	9	7	18	3
20			9	3	8	11	3	1	2
		6		1	5	12	8	9	
					31	7	9	4	8
		12			1	6	3		
	10				1	3	9		
13			1	3	9	30	7	8	6
	17		9	8		4	1	3	

Wijuko

2	5	6
1	4	8
3	7	9

Jigsawdoku

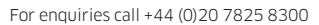
3	5	7	4	6	8	1	9	2
6	4	1	8	3	9	2	5	7
9	7	8	2	5	4	3	6	1
8	3	9	1	2	6	4	7	5
2	6	5	3	7	1	9	4	8
4	1	3	9	8	5	7	2	6
7	9	4	5	1	2	6	8	3
1	8	2	6	9	7	5	3	4
5	2	6	7	4	3	8	1	9

ABC Logic

B	B	C		A	A
A		A	C	B	
			B	A	C
C			A	B	
A	B		C		C
A	B	A	C	C	

*The day
at a glance*

Rio Tinto	4725.5	+2.02%	63430	43540.
Rolls-Royce	78.3	+1.99%	161.9	69.6
RS Group	1074.0	+1.13%	1276.0	790.0
Sainsbury	735.0	+1.77%	862.2	587.2
Sainsbury(J)	197.6	-4.54%	307.8	197.5
Schroders	2642.0	-0.90%	3913.0	2578.0
Scot Mot Inv Tst	812.6	+1.88%	1568.5	670.6
Segro	907.6	-1.84%	1508.0	888.8
Severn Trent	2732.0	-1.48%	3228.0	2561.0
Shell	2270.0	+0.31%	2459.2	1833.4
Smith&Neph	1095.0	-%	1391.0	994.8
Smith (DS)	274.4	-0.25%	464.1	258.2
Smiths Gp	1522.0	+2.08%	1642.0	1323.0
Smurfit Kappa Grp	2828.0	-0.67%	4295.0	2623.0
Spirax-Sarco Eng	10635.0	+1.87%	17225.0	9008.0
SSE	1752.5	-0.06%	1935.5	1510.0
Stan Chart	592.8	+2.77%	641.0	406.2
St James Place	1130.0	+1.12%	1742.5	1044.0
Taylor Wimpey	105.7	-0.80%	179.7	101.8
Tesco	237.4	-4.77%	304.1	237.4
Unilever	3911.5	-0.36%	4109.5	3267.5
Unite Group	1042.0	-1.04%	1212.5	934.8
United Utilities	1043.5	-1.46%	1186.9	961.8
Vodafone	107.9	-2.07%	141.6	106.3
Whitbread	2551.0	-0.04%	3465.4	2382.0
WPP	748.0	+0.75%	1231.5	719.9



FTSE 100	7262.1	+0.33%
FTSE 250	18878.3	+0.36%
FTSE All Share	3990.6	+0.35%
FTSE Eurofirst300	1634.2	+0.49%
Dow Jones *	31593.5	+0.04%
S&P 500 *	3981.1	+0.03%
Nasdaq *	11769.6	-0.19%
DAX	12904.3	-0.09%
CAC 40	6125.9	+0.33%
Hang Seng	18854.6	-1.00%
Nikkei	28065.3	+2.31%



The **FTSE 100** closed the day 24.23 points higher, or 0.33 per cent, at 7,262.06. Elsewhere in Europe, the

CAC40 index in Paris closed up 20.0 at 61259. Germany's **DAX** finished down -11.65 at 12904.32.

The price of **Brent** crude oil was \$88.80 at the close, a fall of 44 cents on the day.

The **FTSE100**'s biggest risers were mining group **Antofagasta**, up 46p to 1,151p, and investment fund **Pershing Square Holdings**, up 80p to 2,840p.

The biggest fallers were

manufacturing group **Melrose Industries**, down 12.85p to 124.8p, and Primark's owners, **Associated British Foods**, down 110p to 1,345p.

The **pound** closed at \$1.1468 compared to \$1.1469 at the previous close. The **euro** ended worth £0.8669 compared to £0.8666 at the previous close.

L	T	O	Y	G	O	L	C	E	V	B	J	Z
Q	W	F	I	P	F	G	Z	S	V	O	V	A
X	K	O	U	K	Y	G	O	L	O	T	A	P
G	E	D	F	S	F	T	E	M	P	A	S	T
U	N	E	D	M	R	J	E	D	P	A	N	T
U	N	E	T	O	B	E	D	E	U	R	Y	C
M	U	P	H	Y	S	O	L	O	G	Y	O	Y
C	H	A	R	P	N	I	C	W	S	O	N	T
H	A	R	P	N	I	C	H	L	C	O	N	T
E	G	E	T	A	T	R	N	E	A	I	S	M
A	N	G	I	E	T	K	S	H	E	Y	V	Y
I	Y	C	A	P	S	R	M	N	E	Z	H	X
S	C	I	M	A	R	N	D	I	S	L	C	U

Across: 3/5 Queens counsel*, 6 Tr-end-y
Down: 1 R-UN-out, 2 Lean-der<, 4 Stead*-y

Today's Weather

Cloudy with rain across much of Scotland. Sunny spells and a widespread chance of showers elsewhere, some of these heavy and thundery.

Today's high

21°

Today's low

8°

Moon Phase



Sunrise

06:25

Sunset

19:29

Around Britain

City	Temp (Midday yesterday)	Rain (mm)	Sun (hrs)
Aberdeen	16	C	12.7
Aberporth	16	SH	15.9
Aberystwyth	16	SH	9.2
Aviemore	16	C	7.2
Belfast	17	C	1.7
Birmingham	18	C	11.1
Bournemouth	19	SH	9.6
Bridlington	16	SH	2.5
Bristol	16	T	9.7
Cardiff	17	SH	7.5
Cromer	21	F	11.2
Durham	16	SH	6.6
Eastbourne	18	SH	34.1
Edinburgh	15	SH	10.2
Eskdalemuir	17	SH	16.0
Glasgow	19	C	2.7
Holyhead	18	F	0.5
Hove	18	SH	34.1
Hull	16	SH	27.3
Huntingdon	20	SH	4.5
Ipswich	18	SH	7.6
Isle of Man	18	C	2.6
Isle of Wight	18	T	9.8
Kinlochewe	19	C	0.1
Kirkwall	14	C	0.4
Leeds	16	SH	3.9
Lerwick	16	F	0.8
Leuchars	17	SH	3.1
Lincoln	19	SH	5.0
Liverpool	20	F	0.9
London	17	SH	13.7
Manchester	19	F	0.6
Margate	19	T	1.7
Milford Haven	18	T	6.8
Morecambe	16	SH	4.2
Newcastle	16	SH	11.3
Norwich	20	SH	7.4
Nottingham	18	SH	2.1
Okehampton	15	T	9.3
Oxford	18	SH	2.9
Plymouth	16	SH	9.5
Portland	17	T	4.3
Portsmouth	19	T	8.4
Prestwick	18	C	3.0
Rhyl	19	C	6.5
Sheffield	18	C	2.3
Shrewsbury	19	C	1.6
Skegness	19	F	17.1
Southend	18	F	5.6
Stoke	18	C	1.1
Stornoway	17	F	0.0
Swansea	17	T	9.8
Tiree	19	S	0.1

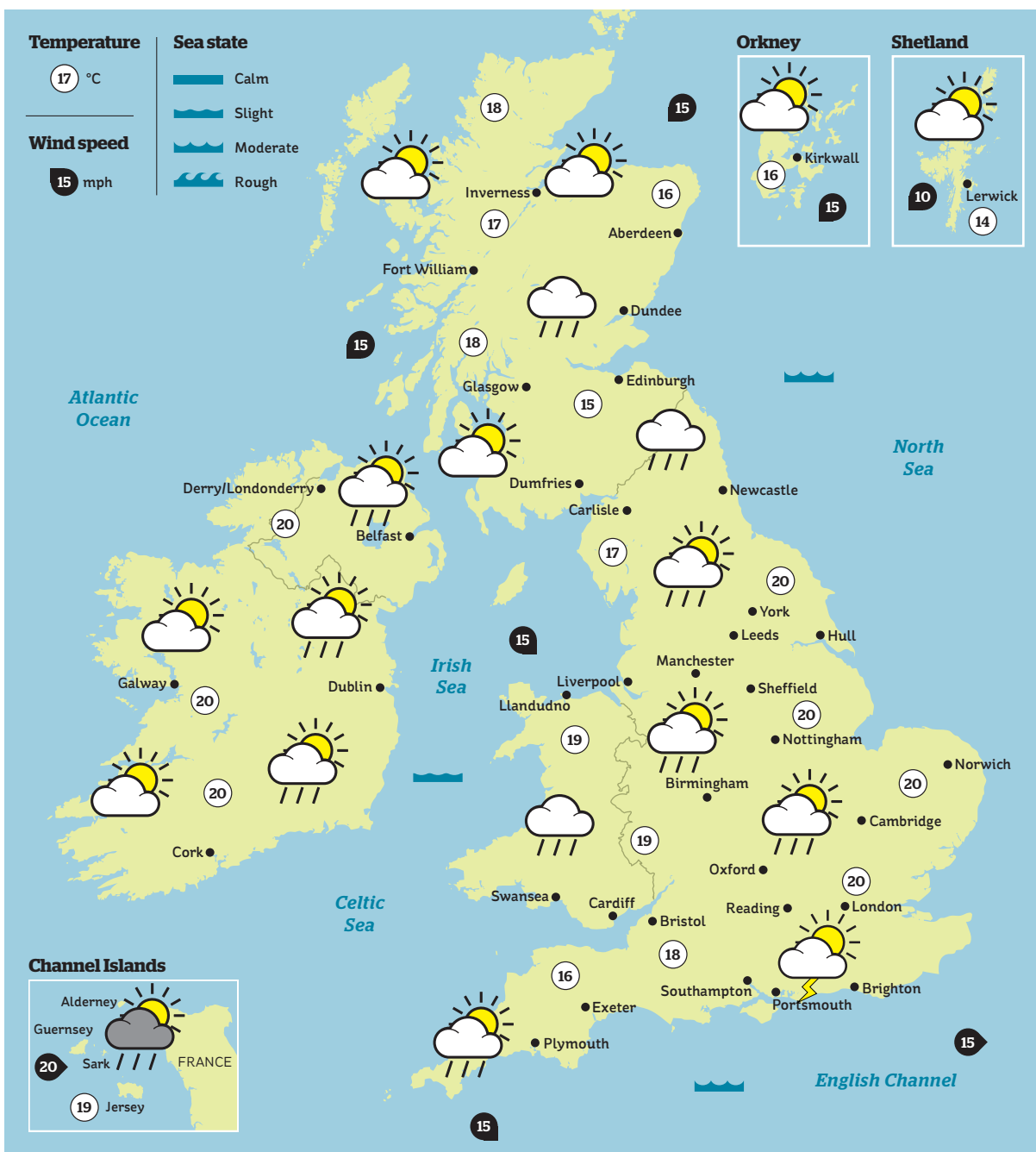
Global

City	Temp (in °C)	Cond	City	Temp (in °C)	Cond
Abu Dhabi	38	F	Miami	34	C
Abuja	28	C	Milan	27	F
Alicante	34	S	Moscow	9	C
Amsterdam	20	SH	Mumbai	29	F
Athens	28	S	Munich	18	SH
Bangkok	27	SH	New York	21	DR
Barcelona	27	F	Nice	26	F
Beijing	30	F	Palma	32	S
Berlin	16	SH	Paris	20	SH
Brussels	18	SH	Prague	17	SH
Budapest	29	F	Reykjavik	15	C
Chicago	26	F	Rio	24	S
Delhi	35	S	Rome	25	TH
Dubai	38	F	Stockholm	15	C
Dublin	18	SH	Strasbourg	22	F
Frankfurt	20	F	Sydney	20	F
Geneva	22	S	Tenerife	27	S
Helsinki	12	S	Tokyo	25	R
Hong Kong	32	F	Toronto	23	F
Istanbul	25	S	Vancouver	20	S
Johannesburg	21	S	Vienna	28	C
Lisbon	26	C	Warsaw	21	S
Los Angeles	29	F	Washington	24	R
Madrid	25	F	Wellington	13	C

Key: C=Cloudy, DR=Drizzle, F=Fair, FG=Fog, H=Hail, M=Mist, R=Rain, S=Sunny, SH=Showers, SL=Sleet, SN=Snow, SS=Sandstorm, TH=Thunderstorm

Air Pollution Index

Region	Today	Tomorrow
Highlands	3	3
North East Scotland	3	3
Central Scotland	3	3
Scottish Borders	3	2
Northern Ireland	3	3
North West & Mersey	3	3
North East	3	3
Yorkshire & Humber	3	3
North Wales	3	3
West Midlands	2	3
East Midlands	2	3
South Wales	3	3
South West	2	3
South East	3	3
Eastern	3	3
Greater London	2	3



GENERAL SITUATION An area of low pressure will be located to the east of the UK an associated occluded front will bring cloudy skies and outbreaks of rain across much of Scotland which may be locally heavy and persistent. Elsewhere cloud will break to reveal a mixture of spells of sunshine, variable patchy cloud cover and a chance of showers developing. Some showers will be locally heavy with a threat of thunderstorms developing.

N Isles, NW Scotland, W Isles: Any early patches of mist will soon lift and clear. It will then be mainly dry and bright during the morning with spells of sunshine and

variable amounts of cloud cover. It will continue dry into the afternoon and evening with sunny spells. Gentle to moderate easterly winds will be locally brisk. Max temp: 19°C. Tonight, clear spells. Min temp: 9°C.

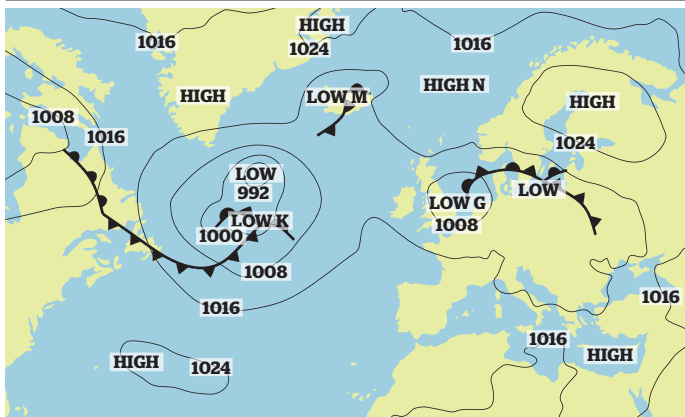
NE Scotland, SW Scotland, SE Scotland: An unsettled start to the day with cloudy skies and outbreaks of rain which will be locally heavy across eastern areas. It will then continue to be dull and damp during the day with cloudy skies and outbreaks of rain and showers which may be heavy. There will be gentle to brisk easterly winds. Max temp: 20°C. Tonight, patchy drizzle. Min temp: 8°C.

N Ireland, Republic of Ireland: Early patches of mist will clear. It will then be dull during the day with large areas of cloud cover around and a chance of showers or longer spells of rain. Cloud will break and spells of sunshine will develop during the afternoon and evening. There will be light to gentle northerly winds. Max temp: 20°C. Tonight, dry and clear. Min temp: 8°C.

Channel Is: A bright start to the day with spells of sunshine, variable amounts of cloud cover and a chance of showers during the morning which may be heavy. A fine afternoon as it will be dry and bright with lengthy spells of sunshine. A dry and sunny

evening. It will be a breezy day with brisk westerly winds. Max temp: 18°C. Tonight, clear spells. Min temp: 15°C.

SW England, N Wales, S Wales, IoM, Cen S England, SE England, London, East Anglia, NW England, NE England, E England, Midlands: Any early patches of mist will soon lift and clear. It will then be largely dry but cloudy however cloud will break during the day to reveal spells of sunshine. A chance of showers developing, some of these will be heavy. Mostly light to gentle north-westerly winds will be locally moderate or brisk. Max temp: 21°C. Tonight, clear spells. Min temp: 11°C.



Key: 1024 Isobars: air pressure in millibars Warm front Cold front Occluded front

SYNOPTIC PRESSURE Low pressure G will continue to fill and clear away to the east of the United Kingdom. High pressure N will then build across the country from the north. Low pressure M is expected to deepen and stay to the south of Iceland. Tropical depression K will fill and slowly drift eastwards and will likely merge with low M.

HIGHS AND LOWS

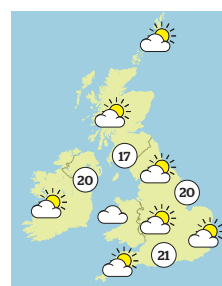
(Yesterday, up to 2pm)

Warmest: Cambridge (NIAB), Cambridgeshire, 21C
Coldest: Shap, Cumbria, 7C
Wettest: Chartwood, Surrey, 35.2mm
Sunniest: Tiree, Argyll and Bute, 7hrs

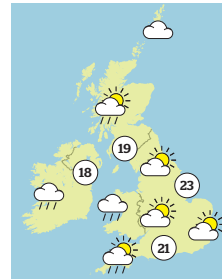
HOURS OF DARKNESS

Aberdeen	19.44-06.29
Birmingham	19.37-06.33
Bristol	19.38-06.37
Cardiff	19.41-06.39
Glasgow	19.50-06.38
Hull	19.32-06.25
Inverness	19.52-06.35
Liverpool	19.42-06.36
London	19.29-06.27
Manchester	19.39-06.33
Stornoway	20.03-06.44
Swansea	19.44-06.42
York	19.35-06.28

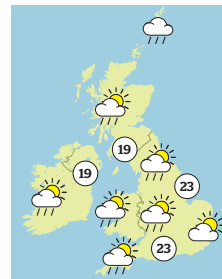
Five-day outlook



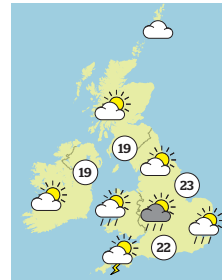
SATURDAY Large areas of cloud cover around and a chance of showers. Sunny spells will develop later. There will be light to gentle winds.



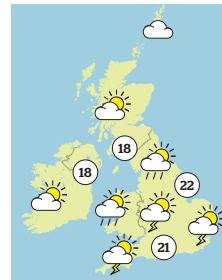
SUNDAY Dry for most areas however thick cloud and rain will spread into northern and western areas. Gentle to brisk southerly winds.



MONDAY Overcast with rain across northern and western areas. Mainly dry elsewhere. Gentle winds which will be brisk in the north-east.



TUESDAY An unsettled day as there will be thick cloud and outbreaks of rain which may be locally heavy. Mostly light to gentle winds.



WEDNESDAY Mixed conditions with sunny spells, variable cloud and a chance of showers or spells of rain. There will be gentle to moderate winds.

Meetings called off in tribute to the sport's 'greatest supporter'

Racing at Southwell and Chelmsford yesterday evening was abandoned following the death of the Queen.

The British Horseracing Authority also announced that the meetings scheduled today – including the third day of the St Leger meeting at Doncaster – have been cancelled.

An announcement will be made today regarding plans for tomorrow, where the Leger at Doncaster is the showpiece event as the final British Classic of the season. Further details on plans throughout the period of mourning leading up to the Queen's funeral are expected in due course.

The Queen's final runner, *Improvise*, trained by Michael Bell and ridden by Benoit De La Sayette, was beaten a short head by *Mount Kosciuszko* in the Quick Ride by Quickslide Handicap over an extended mile at Epsom yesterday.

The BHA said in a statement: "All of British Racing is in mourning today following the passing of Her Majesty The Queen."

"Her Majesty has been one of the greatest and most influential supporters in the history of horse racing. Her passion for racing and the racehorse shone brightly throughout



Improvise, the Queen's final runner, was beaten by a short head at Epsom yesterday by Mount Kosciuszko GETTY

her life, not only through her close involvement in breeding and racing horses, but in her roles as a patron of The Jockey Club and Thoroughbred Breeders' Association, and as the figurehead of Royal Ascot.

"From her first winner Monaveen,

through stars such as Carrozza and Highclere, to the unforgettable Estimate, Her Majesty The Queen has helped to shape the breed and contributed to moments on the track that will go down in sporting folklore.

"It is right, therefore, that all racing is suspended for today and tomorrow as we begin to grieve Her Majesty's passing and remember her extraordinary life and contribution to our sport and our nation."

BHA chair Joe Saumarez Smith said: "The BHA extends our heartfelt condolences to the Royal Family and all those affected by this sad news."

"Racing owes an incalculable debt of gratitude, not only for Her Majesty's dedication and commitment to the sport, but for her public advocacy of it, something that doubtless has driven the sport's popularity and attracted a great number of fans."

"There will be many who work in racing who have enjoyed relationships with Her Majesty through the training and breeding of her horses and will be grieving."

"Our thoughts are with them, and of course the sympathies of all associated with racing are with Her Majesty The Queen's family."

Sandy Dudgeon, senior steward of The Jockey Club, said: "Her Majesty's optimism about our future and her fortitude in the face of adversity was an example to us all."

"She was such a wonderful supporter of the sport of horseracing throughout her life, including as our patron, and we will feel her loss most deeply indeed."

Ascot, the track most deeply connected with the Queen, paid tribute to one of racing's "greatest supporters".

The Berkshire venue is famed for its Royal meeting and procession from nearby Windsor Castle, and the Queen has enjoyed many high-profile victories at the track, not least when Estimate won the Gold Cup in 2013.

Sir Francis Brooke, Her Majesty's representative at the track, said: "The world of racing has lost one of its greatest supporters."

"We at Ascot are privileged to have so many memories of Her Majesty The Queen at this, her racecourse, including some wonderful victories in the royal colours."

"We offer our deepest sympathies to His Majesty The King and the whole Royal Family."

Queen was 'best friend' to racing, says Henderson

By Simon Milham

Nicky Henderson said racing may have lost its best friend, but the country had lost its greatest servant, as he paid tribute to the Queen.

The six-time champion trainer was made a Lieutenant of the Royal Victorian Order in the New Year Honours by the Queen in 2017.

Henderson, the Queen's primary jumps trainer since 2002, also trained for the Queen Mother and has been close to the royal family for many years. He said her loss was immeasurable.

"This has been one absolutely remarkable lady. There has only been one Queen, one monarch in my lifetime," Henderson (below) said.

"I have been very privileged to have been involved, but she was the most lovely person. We all know what she has done for the country and the Commonwealth and its people."

"Her input to this whole country has just been immeasurable."

"At the same time, we have been privileged to have been part of her life. I've known her for quite a long time – my father [Johnny Henderson] did – and I were lucky enough to train for her."

"Racing has lost its best friend and greatest patron, but the country has lost its Queen – but she was more than a Queen. The country has lost somebody who was its greatest servant. She was absolutely the greatest."

"The time and dedication she has given to this country has been incredible."

Henderson, 71, is of Britain's greatest trainers, having won almost all its major races, including two Cheltenham Gold Cups, a record eight Champion Hurdles, five Queen Mother Champion Chases and three King George VI Chases.

Arguably his best horse he trained in the famous silks was Barbers Shop, who was fourth in the Hennessy Gold Cup and third in the King George.

Yet Henderson said regardless of the results, racing for the Queen was an enjoyable outlet from the rigours of service.

"I do think horses were the pleasure of her life, and at the end of the day I think Balmoral was a fitting place for this to have sadly happened, because I'm pretty sure I'm safe in saying that Balmoral was her refuge and I personally know that it is nice that is where she is rested," added Henderson.



Polly Pott springs a big surprise at Doncaster

Polly Pott, a bargain basement filly with an official rating of just 75, sprang a huge surprise when landing the Group Two May Hill Stakes at Doncaster.

The irony was not lost on trainer Harry Dunlop, who, just one month after announcing he was quitting because of lessening opportunities, was

greeting one of the biggest winners of his career. Polly Pott (right) was actually completing a hat-trick, but her previous two wins were low-grade affairs and she was available at 100-1 before shortening to 40-1 at the off, presumably backed by punters with a Polly in the family.

"This is quite extraordinary,"

Dunlop said. "She's a tough filly, but I never imagined she could do that!"

Adayar, the 2021 Derby hero, later made very short work of his two opponents on his belated first outing of the season. Next stop either the Arc, or Ascot for the Champion Stakes.

Jon Freeman

RUGBY UNION

Watson and Pollard set to keep Tigers on the prowl again for title defence

By Andrew Baldock

The 2022-23 Premiership season kicks off tonight with a west country derby between Bristol and Bath at Ashton Gate.

Less than three months after Leicester won a first Premiership title since 2013, the race for silverware will be off and running.

Here we look at some of the talking points heading into a new campaign.

Worcester's fight for survival

The big pre-season story has been about Worcester and their financial strife. HM Revenue & Customs has frozen the club's finances in its pursuit of unpaid tax, while wages to players and staff have been delayed. Four Worcestershire MPs have called for Warriors to be placed in administration, and on the field they face a Premiership opener at London Irish after playing no pre-season friendlies. It looks like Worcester will kick off the league campaign on schedule, but their troubles are far from over amid continued uncertainty.



Tigers on the prowl

It took head coach Steve Borthwick just two years to transform Leicester from Premiership relegation contenders into league champions as Tigers triumphed by beating Saracens in a pulsating Twickenham final. Leicester were at the wrong end of the table before Borthwick arrived in mid-2020, but alongside key individuals like Kevin Sinfield, George Ford and Ellis Genge, a stunning transformation was completed. Ford and Genge have now moved elsewhere, yet Borthwick has brought in the likes of international stars Anthony Watson (right) and Handre Pollard, so expect another big season.

Hot or cold Bath?

It is difficult to imagine how Bath can be any worse than last term, when they finished bottom of the Premiership after winning just five of 24 league games and conceding more than 760 points. They suffered some humiliating defeats – notably 71-17 at home to Saracens and 64-0 at Gloucester – and a summer shake-up has seen

former Munster boss Johann van Graan arrive as the club's new head of rugby. Player-wise, the likes of Watson, Taulupe Faletau, Semesa Rokoduguni and Danny Cipriani have departed, but notable new arrivals include Chris Cloete, Quinn Roux and Piers Francis (below). The only way is up, surely.

Bristol's Genge factor

Genge is on the back of a season to savour, captaining Leicester to the title and starring for England as their international schedule ended with a Test series triumph against Australia Down Under. The prop's performances were consistently outstanding, and his hometown club Bristol can now reap the benefit of recruiting a player in the form of his life. He offers a huge presence on and off the field, and while a squad is about way more than just one player, Genge could make the biggest impact of any player in the Premiership this term.

Can Gloucester be the big cheese?

Gloucester are among only four clubs – Leicester, Bath and Wasps are the others – to have enjoyed unbroken top-flight status since leagues began in English rugby 35 years ago. They have yet to lift the title, though, making Premiership final appearances in 2003 and 2007. But under head coach George Skivington, a sleeping giant is stirring, with the Cherry and Whites finishing only two points outside the play-off zone last season. The pack looks capable of mixing it with any rival, while stardust is provided by Louis Rees-Zammit, Jonny May and Chris Harris. It could prove a heady mix.



Northampton's forwards are put through their paces during a training session this week

GETTY



'We are the hub of the town. Everyone lives and breathes for the Saints'

Hugh Godwin

RUGBY UNION CORRESPONDENT



Northampton need look only 30 miles up the road to their great rivals in the East Midlands to see how a Premiership title can be won with a fairly quick turnaround in fortunes – and don't they just know it? As Saints' second row Dave Ribbans puts it: "Someone on the street got me the other day and said, 'at least you lost to the people that ended up winning it'. And I said 'well, no, because it's Leicester'. That is the worst of the worst, Leicester winning, so we obviously have got some catching up to do this season."

The loss in question came in last season's play-off semi-final, the reward for Northampton finishing in

fourth place in their fourth and final season under Chris Boyd. The well-liked New Zealander remains on tap as a consultant, by phone and visiting once or twice during the season, but his job is filled now by Phil Dowson, the former England back-rower, with Sam Vesty (below), ex-Leicester and Bath fly-half, as head coach. These two are part of an English coaching team retained or added under Boyd in 2018. Their most recent final, in 2014, brought their solitary Premiership crown.

"I think Boydie took over the club in a position where it didn't quite know where it was going," says Vesty, in a break from pre-season training at Northampton School for Boys, where Saints' best-known player, Courtney Lawes, was educated. "They wanted to get an academy going and grow a young group of players to become really competitive at the top end of the Premiership and in Europe, using

the English coaches. And following that remit, he's done a fantastic job. It wasn't all smooth sailing, but he's leaving a well-functioning machine to help get really good players from the academy, and also get in good rugby players because it's a good culture and a good environment to be in. And also helping myself and 'Dowse' become ready to take more ownership and leadership."

Ribbans joined under Boyd's predecessor, Jim Mallinder, in 2017 and says a repeat of a semi-final would be lower than the minimum expectation now: "Phil Dowson's mentality has been 'top two', we are a top-two team, and everything we do has been to that level. There has been a real shift in mentality there."

"Chris Boyd brought a brilliant way of free-flowing rugby, which we don't want to lose – it's iconic with Saints. But you can't play like that throughout the year. When the win-





Goode vibrations all round as veteran is on right track at Sarries

By Rhys Jones

Drift through every hall and room in Saracens' StoneX Stadium and you'll be greeted to a plethora of memorabilia. Portraits and framed jerseys of some of rugby's greatest figures adorn the walls. From Michael Lynagh to Phillippe Sella and Francois Pienaar. Make your way to the bar and you'll even find an 80-metre warm-up track used by Usain Bolt, Mo Farah, and Jess Ennis ahead of the 2012 Olympics.

The most eye-catching of all the souvenirs, however, are the three European titles and five Premiership trophies that now sit on the stadium's decorated shelves.

That era of unparalleled success has been bookended by two Premiership final losses. One in 2010, and one last season. Both at the hands of Leicester Tigers. The common factor in those two games? Alex Goode.

All those trophies, the highs, and the lows, have led to the 34-year-old exuding as much calmness off the pitch as he does on it. And having played in an incredible 12 finals, losing just four, even he concedes that losing the big dance is not something Saracens are particularly accustomed to.

"We haven't experienced that for a while. But I think you can take it in two ways really. You either get stronger or tighter as a group and get motivated, or you get angry and don't move past it in a sense. We have had adversity before and we've backed it up by putting our best foot forward, and it's something I believe as a squad we definitely will do.

"It's a horrible feeling, losing. But you have to look at it objectively after a bit of time and think about. There are reasons why we didn't win. It was

a final that we could have, maybe should have won at times. And that's disappointing from our side, but Leicester played very well, credit to them. Their game plan worked."

But with experience aplenty, and a level of composure that Mark McCall has clearly instilled in him over the years, Goode knows that there is little that Saracens need to change this season if they're to lift the trophy at Twickenham next May.

We had a successful year, played well and we lost the big dance. It's just little things we need to get better at

"Ultimately, we got to a final and everyone is like 'it's not a successful season'. To get to a final is a success and you don't want to deviate dramatically from what you're doing, because you're obviously doing something right. You can't just go 'oh we've got to rip everything up'. No, we're on the right track. Just keep doing what we're

doing, and we'll get to the answer. "You can't have too much of a knee-jerk reaction. You can't think that we need to do this better, or we need to tactically change something. Of course we're doing things well. We had a successful year, played well, and we lost the big dance, which is disappointing beyond belief. It's just little things we need to get better at and keep improving."

The calm, simplistic approach that Goode suggests is reflected in Saracens' recruitment. They made just four summer signings, a meagre number compared to most Premiership sides. The most high-profile of the four is Harlequins' young lock Hugh Tizard.

Looking ahead to this season, Saracens will start theirs in the most intense way possible – with a derby against London rivals and 2021 champions Harlequins, where Tizard will have his chance to show his former employers what they're missing. That match is scheduled for the 17 September, which gives Saracens a bye week in Round 1 this weekend.

Goode has not only been the side's star full-back, but has handled the reins of fly-half excellently whenever Owen Farrell has been on England duty – a versatility that Saracens will sorely miss if his current contract isn't renewed at the end of this coming season. Even with all the miles under his belt, Goode has no doubts about his physical capabilities.

"I felt really good last year, I played a lot of rugby and to do that at 34 was nice. I've still got a lot of lead left in the pencil so to speak. I feel good and in a good place mentally and physically, just excited to get out there and play because training is rubbish compared to games."

And what of the contract situation? "Media reports say I'm off to Japan again. It was news to me," chuckles Goode. "I'm just very happy at the club, I've got a year. See how I feel in the next few months, see how they feel, and we'll go from there, I guess. I feel good and we'll see how we get on."

Diamond: Don't feel sorry – we aren't victims

By Andrew Baldock

Steve Diamond does not want Worcester to be portrayed as "victims" after the crisis-hit club plunged into a state of financial uncertainty.

Warriors kick off their Premiership campaign against London Irish tomorrow against a background of HM Revenue & Customs freezing the club's finances in pursuit of unpaid tax, and delays to wages for players and staff.

Co-owners Colin Goldring and Jason Whittingham insist they remain in talks with possible buyers, although four Worcestershire MPs have called for Warriors to be placed in administration.

Diamond (*below*) has kept the squad going through many dark days and they will tackle Irish after playing no pre-season friendlies. "I don't expect people to feel sorry for us. We are not victims here," the rugby director said.

"This is just an unfortunate situation that we have to battle our way out of. I don't want anyone looking at us and going 'Ooh, they're plucky'. That's not the way we are. We are not going to London Irish as victims, trust me. No chance.

"There has been a lot of noise outside – quite rightly so with the predicament the club has been in – but what we have managed to do is cocoon ourselves in the training facility and we have got on with the job in hand.

"One of the biggest worries was getting paid by the owners, and that happened last Friday, which was a godsend.

"I would be telling lies if I told you people weren't anxious behind the scenes.

"The last training week we've had has been outstanding, and I am not just saying that.

"To get a team out [on Saturday] is pretty good, to perform well will be even better. If we win, we might stop at the first off-licence on the way home."

Diamond confirmed that flanker Kyle Hatherell, who has indicated a desire to move elsewhere, is the only player unavailable this weekend for reasons other than injury.

On the financial situation, Diamond said: "The owners have informed me that they have an investor who has a very strong interest.

"They are in talks with them now. I don't know who it is and I haven't asked. That's all I can tell you."



ter comes, you have to balance it. Dowson was a back-row forward, tough as they get. He has brought the way he wants the game to be played. A more rough and rugged side, that we lacked at times last year. And Sam Vesty is brilliant at giving players the freedom to look for space – that's his whole philosophy."

A five-year plan to return Saints to profitability under chief executive Mark Darbon was interrupted by the pandemic, which was also the backdrop to a long run of home losses. The feelgood factor appears to have returned, with 7,500 season tickets sold. Solar panels adorn three of the grandstand roofs at the tongue-twistingly named cinch Stadium at Franklin's Gardens – which has brought Saints a celebrity fan in the car-seller's public face, Rylan Clark-Neal – and a training centre is under construction next door, with a replica of the main pitch outdoors, and an indoor facility due to open in January.

Vesty says of that losing streak: "When we really start winning things, that will be the phoenix-from-the-flames time. We worked out fundamentally what we wanted to be, and the foundation laid has made us a lot more consistent across the board. To have been in those pretty horrible, dark places, and to come out and see yourself improve and then get better, it brings a certain tight-knittedness."

The sharp-minded Vesty played more than 200 Premiership matches and he resists lazy analysis of last

season's results. He refers to several good performances in narrow defeats, and getting "battered" by Saracens, and being "dreadful against Bath – "but we won with a fantastic last 10 minutes."

Vesty also says there is a little more depth to the squad under captain Lewis Ludlam. Three players signed from Australia should be available for the whole season, including Reds second row Lukhan Salakaia-Loto.

Another part of that Northampton jigsaw in 2018 was Wales fly-half Dan Biggar, now in his final season. The club have been linked with Worcester's Fin Smith, but for now the 10-12 channel comprises Biggar, James Grayson, George Furbank, Fraser Dingwall and Rory Hutchinson. "The combinations we put in place there are a big part of what makes us who we are," says Vesty. "How we attack and how we can get the game going forward is slightly different to how other teams do it."

Visiting Northampton School for Boys, you can tell this is a rugby town, with Old Northamptonians RFC across the road and Northampton Old Scouts RFC just down the hill. The locals are buzzing about the powerful back Tommy Freeman.

"It's a community club," says Ribbans. "There's not much going on in Northampton and we are the hub of the town. Everyone on a Saturday lives and breathes for the Saints. When it's a bad result, you hear about it."



Alex Goode has been at Saracens for 14 years as full-back or fly-half

RUGBY LEAGUE

Smith calls in Uncle Tony as Leeds aim to put out Dragons' fire

By Ian Laybourn

Tony Smith, who guided Leeds to two Old Trafford triumphs in his four years as head coach, could be about to help the Rhinos to more Grand Final glory.

Tony's nephew Rohan has masterminded a late-season revival that propelled Leeds from 10th to fifth in Super League, earning them a place in tonight's elimination play-off against Catalans Dragons in Perpignan.

And he is now set to turn to his experienced uncle (right), who has been out of work since losing his job at Hull Kingston Rovers in July but is expected to fill the vacancy across the city at Hull FC, to help them get past their next hurdle.

"I haven't really spoken to him about rugby a lot since I've been here," said Rohan, who arrived in May to succeed Richard Agar. "He had his own club to deal with at Hull KR and since then he's needed a break and I haven't bothered him."

"But this week will be a good time to pick his brains a bit, run some ideas past him and see if he has got any words of wisdom for me. Having been there so many times before, it would be silly not to ask."

Leeds have twice won the Grand Final from fifth and Smith says he was confident they could reach the play-offs despite languishing third from bottom when Agar quit.

"Looking at the ladder when I signed, I could see there was still an opportunity to make it but it was going to be a long hard journey," he said. "So we went just one game at a

time, narrowing our focus as much as we could to the current challenge and not making a thing about the table.

"I know individuals were looking at the table and other fixtures but we didn't pay any attention to that as a group and it's been a successful approach."

"To go all the way, it would be massive for the club to overcome the bumps in the road that we've had this year but we've got a really tough game ahead of us against a seasoned, veteran team that have played a lot of big games in previous seasons."

Catalans are no strangers to the play-offs, having reached the semi-finals in 2020 and a maiden Grand Final last season, and full-back Sam Tomkins says the defeat by St Helens at Old Trafford in October will provide additional motivation.

"It still stings," said the England captain. "I'm a bad loser and I don't think anybody gets over a loss like that really."

"The big thing for me is winning the Grand Final with this club, who have never won it before. To come within two points of that was devastating and I think it will not only spur me on but spur the club on."



{i} St Helens utility back Jack Welsby, the 2021 Young Player of the Year, is in the running for the **Steve Prescott Man of Steel**. Wigan's Jai Field and Salford's Brodie Croft are also on the shortlist.

Sport in brief

GOLF

McDowell calls for vote on LIV rebels



Graeme McDowell (left) wants to see players given a vote on whether to allow LIV rebels to compete on the DP World Tour.

McDowell is one of 18 players from the Saudi-funded breakaway competing in the BMW PGA Championship, a situation which Rory McIlroy said he found "hard to stomach".

Defending champion Billy Horschel also labelled the likes of Abraham Ancer and Talor Gooch "hypocrites" for making their tournament debuts at Wentworth having previously shown no interest in the event.

McDowell said: "If it is something they don't want, great, but the lack of clarity is not good."

CRICKET

Sciver to take a break for wellbeing



England Women all-rounder Nat Sciver has decided to withdraw from England Women's international Twenty20 and one-day series against India to focus on her mental health and wellbeing. The 30-year-old left Durham yesterday to return home.

Amy Jones will be captain throughout the T20 series in Sciver's absence, and a replacement player will be named in the squad ahead of the second T20 at Derby.

Sciver (above) said: "I've played a lot of cricket over the last nine months and I am very emotionally fatigued. For the moment I'm not able to perform without compromising my own wellbeing."

CRICKET

Hants go top with victory

Hampshire moved to the top of County Championship Division One after they beat the rain to thrash Northamptonshire by an innings and four runs at the Ageas Bowl.

After the morning had been washed out and further rain took the players off again in the afternoon, Hampshire eventually managed to pick up the seven wickets needed in 27 overs as the visitors were bowled out for 221.

Gloucestershire, meanwhile, edged closer to relegation as their bid for a first win of the season was thwarted by the weather on the final day against Somerset at Taunton (right).

Only 40 balls were bowled yesterday and the game was drawn.

The third Test between England and South Africa at the Oval was a total washout.



England to offer multi-year deals to halt T20 exodus, says new chairman

Richard Thompson fears 'tipping point' in future of game, reports **Chris Stocks**

Richard Thompson, the new chairman of the England & Wales Cricket Board, says England's players are likely to be awarded multi-year contracts in future to stop them quitting international cricket and cashing in on lucrative Twenty20 franchise competitions.

Several players, including former New Zealand bowler Trent Boult, have already stopped playing for their country in order to free themselves up for the riches on offer in the numerous franchise leagues around the world.

And Thompson, who started his five-year term at the ECB last week, believes something needs to be done to stop England's players from doing likewise in future.

"We've got to guard against it," he said. "And that involves a lot

more thinking than we are doing at the moment. We've got to provide them with security, it's not all about money. If you're going from one league to another and you get injured, you're done. But if a country can say, 'here's a three-year contract' that's very different."

"We don't want a situation where we have the pathway from under-9s to academy and then, at that point, that player we have nurtured and developed for the last 11 years we lose to the game. If that were to happen, cricketers would effectively become like golfers – following the sun and just going on tours."

"That seems to be where this could play out, so our ability to manage and control our talent is crucial. I do feel we are at a tipping point of how we control our talent and are not losing them. In five years' time, if we've lost

In five years' time, if we've lost our best talent to multiple global tournaments then that's a tragedy

our best talent to multiple global tournaments then that's a tragedy."

New franchise leagues are continually popping up around the globe, including those in the UAE, South Africa and the USA that are set to launch in the next year. Thompson believes there will come a time when the bubble will burst.

He said: "At the moment there has to be a point when you just say: 'Enough'. And I don't know at what stage that happens."

"But there is so much volume coming, at some point there will be a shake-up. I can't see how every competition – 14 T20 franchise competitions across the world – all flourish. There's bound to be a levelling off at some point."

Thompson, speaking at The Oval after the first day of England's final Test against South Africa was washed out, also says he has had a "Road to Damascus" conversion about the Hundred, a competition he voted against in his previous job as Surrey chairman.

"I can see its value, and its audience," he said. "Just the age, demographic, ethnicity of audience at home, and at the ground. The tournament can't work if it isn't bringing the established audience with it but it needs a new audience too. It has to do that to justify its existence. Thompson's most

TENNIS

Kyrgios is game's caped crusader but talented youngsters wait in wings

James Gray

AT FLUSHING MEADOWS

"He's the hero Gotham deserves, but not the one it needs right now."

Tennis's own Batman, Nick Kyrgios, has been a little of both – part the hero tennis deserves, part the hero tennis needs. Now he is neither.

The Australian (*below*) has taken off his mask and is flying home to his family after months away on tour. Beaten by Karen Khachanov, he is out of the US Open.

With it, he takes the last fragments of established star quality from the men's draw and leaves us with a glimpse into the post-GOAT era of tennis.

Three men – Roger Federer, Rafael Nadal and Novak Djokovic – have provided us with untold entertainment over the past 20 years, but it will not be long before they are all spending more time with their families and remembering what it's like to have a couple of beers without having to go to the gym in the morning.

The hero tennis needs? Even Kyrgios's accession into the realm of leading man has been relatively recent. But with Djokovic absent, Federer injured, Andy Murray out in the third round and Nadal in the fourth, Kyrgios became the favourite and the big star. When Serena Williams retired and Coco Gauff was bounced out in straight sets, his importance to second week TV ratings was even greater. Then he lost in five.

"I don't even really care about any other tournament. I feel like at the grand slams, now having success at a grand slam, it's just like no other tournament really matters," this year's Wimbledon runner-up said. "It's like you get better, you get worse, then at a grand slam none of it matters. You either win or lose.

"That's all people remember at a grand slam, whether you win or you lose. Pretty much every other tournament during the year is a waste of time. You should just run up and

show up at a grand slam. That's what you're remembered by."

Kyrgios's efforts at Wimbledon will be remembered. Beating world No 1 and defending champion Daniil Medvedev here will be remembered.

But the six other men left in the draw when he went out to Khachanov do not have those kinds of results to fall back on, barring Carlos Alcaraz. Outside the tennis bubble, some of them are almost anonymous.

This is hard to quantify beyond the anecdotal, but if you look at Instagram, the picture is stark. Kyrgios has 3.1 million followers on Instagram. The six players remaining in the draw after he lost had 3.4 million combined, 1.6 million of those are Alcaraz's fans, not to mention the probable crossover between the six accounts.

Global Google search data ranks Alcaraz and Jannik Sinner in the same echelon as Kyrgios, but the likes of Casper Ruud and Khachanov are away in the distance, 10 times less popular. Most of the time, Frances Tiafoe would be in the region too.

What about the hero we deserve? Even if we just take his most recent match, he swore loudly and repeatedly (which strangely went unpenalised), he smashed a racket on the court in frustration during the third set (again, unpenalised), and he spat in the direction of his box after match point was sealed. He then broke two more rackets on the court, and quickly exited.

Fortunately, there are two players emerging who will put and keep fans in stadiums well after midnight, as they did on Wednesday night into yesterday. Alcaraz-Sinner looks like a rivalry that could go on for years and years to come.

But tennis will always need more than just great players to cut through, and these youngsters will not learn that overnight. And Alcaraz and Sinner cannot play each other every week, unless we get really lucky.

In the meantime, Kyrgios, love him or hate him, will help keep tennis in the battle for eyeballs, at least until someone else comes along with something better.

2.50am

Spanish teenager Carlos Alcaraz celebrates after clinching a 6-3, 6-7, 6-7, 7-5, 6-3 quarter-final victory over Jannik Sinner of Italy at 2.50am (7.50am UK time) after five hours and 15 minutes of full-throttle tennis. It was the latest ever finish to a match in US Open history



Richard Thompson started his five-year term at the ECB last week

Results Service

EUROPA LEAGUE GROUP A									
PSV (o)	1								
Zurich (1)	1								
Kryeziu 44 (pen)									
	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts		
Arsenal	1	1	0	0	2	1	3		
Bodo/Glimt	1	0	1	0	1	1	1		
PSV	1	0	1	0	1	1	1		
Zurich	1	0	0	1	1	2	0		

EUROPA LEAGUE GROUP B									
AEK Larnaca (1)	1								
Fenerbahce (1)	1								
	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts		
Rennes (1)	1	0	0	0	2	1	3		
Dynamo Kiev (o)	1	0	0	1	1	2	0		

EUROPA LEAGUE GROUP C									
HJK (o)	0								
Ludogorets (o)	2								
	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts		
Real Betis (1)	1	0	0	1	0	1	0		
Roma (o)	1	0	0	1	0	3	0		

EUROPA LEAGUE GROUP D									
Malmö FF (o)	0								
Union Berlin (o)	0								
	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts		
Braga (1)	1	0	0	1	0	1	0		
Union Saint Gilloise (1)	1	0	0	1	0	3	0		

EUROPA LEAGUE GROUP E									
Man Utd (o)	0								
Omonia Nicosia (o)	0								
	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts		
Real Sociedad (o)	1	0	0	1	0	1	0		
Mendez 59 (pen)	1	0	0	1	0	3	0		

EUROPA LEAGUE GROUP F									
Lazio (3)	4								
Sturm Graz (1)	1								
	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts		
Feyenoord (o)	1	0	0	1	0	3	0		
FC Midtjylland (o)	1	0	0	1	0	3	0		

EUROPA LEAGUE GROUP G									
Freiburg (2)	2								
Nantes (1)	2								
	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts		
Karabakh (1)	1	0	0	1	0	1	0		
Olympiacos (o)	1	0	0	1	0	3	0		

EUROPA LEAGUE GROUP H									
Ferencváros (3)	3								
Red Star Belgrade (o)	0								
	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts		
Trabzonspor (1)	1	0	0	1	0	1	0		
Monaco (o)	1	0	0	1	0	3	0		

EUROPA CONFERENCE LEAGUE GROUP A									
Fiorentina (o)	1								
Barak 56	1								
Hearts (o)	0								
	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts		
Rigas FS (o)	1	0	0	1	0	1	0		
Ilic 74	1	0	0	1	0	3	0		

EUROPA CONFERENCE LEAGUE GROUP B									
Anderlecht (o)	1								
Silkeborg (o)	0								
	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts		
Silkeborg (o)	1	0	0	1	0	1	0		
FCSB	1	0	0	1	1	3	0		

EUROPA CONFERENCE LEAGUE GROUP C									
West Ham (o)	3								
Bowen 69 (pen)	1								
Emerson Palmieri 74	1								
Antonio 90	1								
	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts		
FCSB	1	0	0	1	1	3	0		

EUROPA CONFERENCE LEAGUE GROUP D									
West Ham (o)	3								
Bowen 69 (pen)	1								
Emerson Palmieri 74	1								
Antonio 90	1								
	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts		
FCSB	1	0	0	1	1	3	0		

EUROPA CONFERENCE LEAGUE GROUP E									
West Ham (o)	3								
Bowen 69 (pen)	1								
Emerson Palmieri 74	1								
Antonio 90	1								
	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts		
FCSB	1	0	0	1	1	3	0		

EUROPA CONFERENCE LEAGUE GROUP F									
West Ham (o)	3								
Bowen 69 (pen)	1								
Emerson Palmieri 74	1								
Antonio 90	1								
	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts		
FCSB	1	0	0	1	1	3	0		

EUROPA CONFERENCE LEAGUE GROUP G									
West Ham (o)	3								
Bowen 69 (pen)	1								
Emerson Palmieri 74	1								
Antonio 90	1								
	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts		
FCSB	1	0	0	1	1	3	0		

EUROPA CONFERENCE LEAGUE GROUP H									
West Ham (o)	3								
Bowen 69 (pen)	1								
Emerson Palmieri 74	1								
Antonio 90	1								
	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts		
FCSB	1	0	0	1	1	3	0		

EUROPA CONFERENCE LEAGUE GROUP I									
West Ham (o)	3								
Bowen 69 (pen)	1								
Emerson Palmieri 74	1								
Antonio 90	1								
	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts		
FCSB	1	0	0	1	1	3	0		

EUROPA CONFERENCE LEAGUE GROUP J									
West Ham (o)	3								
Bowen 69 (pen)	1								
Emerson Palmieri 74	1								
Antonio 90	1								
	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts		
FCSB	1	0	0	1	1	3	0		

EUROPA CONFERENCE LEAGUE GROUP K									
West Ham (o)	3								
Bowen 69 (pen)	1								
Emerson Palmieri 74	1								
Antonio 90	1								
	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts		
FCSB	1	0	0	1	1	3	0		

EUROPA CONFERENCE LEAGUE GROUP L									
West Ham (o)	3								
Bowen 69 (pen)	1								
Emerson Palmieri 74	1								
Antonio 90	1								
	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts		
FCSB	1	0	0	1	1	3	0		

EUROPA CONFERENCE LEAGUE GROUP M									
West Ham (o)	3								
Bowen 69 (pen)	1								
Emerson Palmieri 74	1								
Antonio 90	1								
	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts		
FCSB	1	0	0	1	1	3	0		

EUROPA CONFERENCE LEAGUE GROUP N									
West Ham (o)	3								
Bowen 69 (pen)	1								
Emerson Palmieri 74	1								
Antonio 90	1								
	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts		
FCSB	1	0	0	1	1	3	0		

EUROPA CONFERENCE LEAGUE GROUP O									
West Ham (o)	3								
Bowen 69 (pen)	1								
Emerson Palmieri 74	1								
Antonio 90	1								

LIVERPOOL

Is infamous seven-year curse coming back to haunt Klopp again?

Katherine Lucas



Jürgen Klopp's ties to Merseyside run deeper than results, though his achievements since taking over in 2015 have elevated him to a place unheard of in Liverpool's recent history, one in a similar bracket to Bob Paisley and Bill Shankly.

Along the way, there have been cracks – most notably, when the Reds mustered one of the most feeble title defences in Premier League history in 2020-21, including six losses in seven games across February and March. But within a year they would be on the brink of a historic quadruple.

Yet what marks Liverpool's early-season decline this time around as so startling is that it has happened so suddenly, from a Champions League final and challenging for the domestic title on the final day of last term, to a run of two wins from seven games, failure to beat Fulham, Crystal Palace and Everton, a defeat to their greatest rivals, and a European collapse against Napoli.

The manner of defeat in Italy raised the most pertinent question of all, by Jamie Carragher among others, as to whether Klopp is able to rediscover the "intensity" which defined his previous Liverpool

sides. There is a suspicion that Klopp's "heavy metal football" leads to burnout, a claim also levelled at Marcelo Bielsa at Leeds.

Then there is the infamous "seven-year curse", as odds were slashed on him becoming the next Premier League manager sacked on Wednesday night.

It began at Mainz, just three years after his "greatest success as a coach". In 2004, they had won promotion to the Bundesliga for the first time in their history and he led them to two successive 11th-place finishes, before they were relegated. In isolation, that means little. A minnow punching above their weight eventually came up short.

However, history repeated itself at Borussia Dortmund, where Klopp (*below*) had won back-to-back league titles – the last non-Bayern Munich manager to do so in the Bundesliga – and reached the Champions League final at Wembley.

In Klopp's final season, they spent time in the relegation zone, lost 14 games, and eventually finished seventh. At the time his exit was confirmed, with six games left to play, Dortmund were languishing in 10th.

"This club deserves to be coached by someone who is 100 per cent the right person for the job, and a decision had to be made," he said in 2015. "I read this morning about myself being tired. That isn't true. I'm not tired and I have no plans to take a sabbatical, but likewise I have no plans arranged with other clubs either, nothing at all."

This time around, in a pre-season interview with *The Anfield Wrap*, he acknowledged it was "really strange" to be entering his seventh season and made an admission that his side needed to evolve.

"We are now already a while together, it's my seventh season," he said. "But we cannot just keep things like they are."

"So we cannot just say 'ah it's great' with the same team and getting older. You have to make changes, we do. We do, constantly."

The intention has always been to take a sabbatical from football when his Liverpool reign comes to an end – but there has always been a widespread assumption that would happen at the moment of his choosing, on his own terms. That is the logic that suggests Klopp is here to stay for now, barring catastrophe.

BRENTFORD



Thomas Frank has built up a strong rapport with the Brentford fans
REUTERS

Frank 'delighted' for Potter but dismisses Brighton link

By George Sessions

Thomas Frank insists he has "unfinished business" at Brentford amid links to the newly vacant role at Premier League rivals Brighton.

Frank's stock is high after guiding the Bees to promotion in 2021 and helping them achieve an impressive 13th-placed finish in their maiden Premier League campaign last term.

Ahead of tomorrow's trip to Southampton, the 47-year-old has been installed among the favourites to replace Graham Potter at Brighton but he says he is fully focused on the St Mary's clash.

"[I am] very happy here at Brent-

ford. A lot of unfinished business to do here. We have started the season well and big potential at the club, so that's what my focus is and my focus is on the Southampton game."

The Bees boss did express his delight for Potter to be given the opportunity to manage Chelsea over other candidates with more experience of European football.

He added: "I am very happy for Graham that he got the chance at a club like Chelsea. The easy pick would be to go for [Mauricio] Pochettino or [Zinedine] Zidane, no disrespect."

"Two great, great coaches of world football and well known for what they have done, but I am so

pleased a coach like Graham, who has done in many, many ways a different route, got acknowledged for the good job he has done and now gets the chance to compete at a club with Champions League football."

Frank was "surprised" by Tuchel's dismissal. "I think it was very early doors in the season and he has done a very good job there," he said.

"They won the Champions League and competed in the Premier League but I don't know what happened behind the scenes. There is a lot of decisions in the world of football that maybe I don't agree with, looking from the outside, but again I don't know what happens behind the doors."

Football in brief

BOURNEMOUTH

O'Neil hopes to earn Cherries job



Gary O'Neil has indicated his interest in taking on the Bournemouth job full-time as

he prepares his side to face Brighton tomorrow.

O'Neil (*above*) has earned his side four points from his first two games in charge since he replaced Scott Parker in the wake of the Cherries' 9-0 defeat to Liverpool at Anfield.

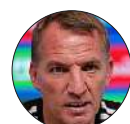
The 39-year-old will be up against another caretaker manager in Andrew Crofts tomorrow, following Graham Potter's departure to Chelsea.

O'Neil said: "I think it's an unbelievable club, run by good people and, of course, if somebody asked me around that [becoming manager], it would always be a consideration."

"I still feel like I'm on a journey. It's nine years since I started my coaching badges with a view to being a manager – I've always wanted to be a manager."

LEICESTER CITY

Rodgers: I have not been betrayed



Leicester manager Brendan Rodgers says he has the full support of the club and does not feel he

has been betrayed.

Rodgers (*above*) has come under pressure with his side sitting bottom of the Premier League on just one point after five successive losses. But the 49-year-old is defiant in wanting to stay in the job and says everyone is pulling in the same direction.

"Normally what you find when results go against you as a manager, there can be a level of betrayal that kicks in against you as a manager, but I have never felt that at all. All the staff, players have been absolutely brilliant in their support."

"If it is not going well you can get lots of side conversations, but I have not felt that. We are all together, we are all on one page, we have all worked well and now when it is not going so well we are still very much together."

MANCHESTER CITY

Taylor swoops for Hammer Hasegawa



Manchester City have signed Japan midfielder Yui Hasegawa from West Ham United on a

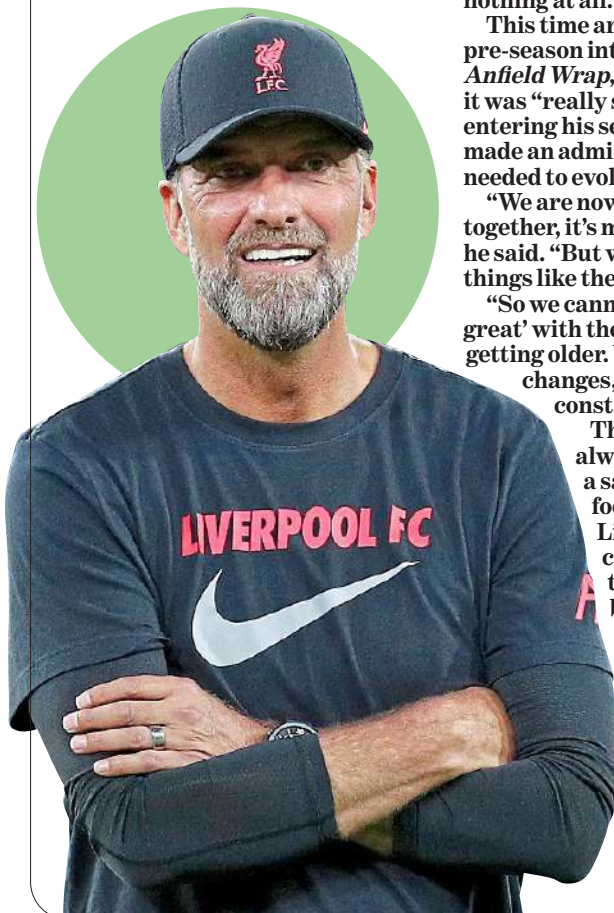
three-year deal.

The 25-year-old, who spent a season with the Hammers, scoring twice in 17 appearance, has won 58 international caps.

"It has been a big dream of mine to come to Manchester City to play football, so I am very happy to be here," she said. "When I played against City last season, I really liked the team's playing style, so when I got this opportunity, I immediately wanted to join the club."

Gareth Taylor is looking forward to working with Hasegawa.

"She has a lot of experience under her belt including a year already in the Barclays WSL, and we believe she will fit very nicely in with our style of play and the talented squad we already have here at City," the City boss said.



Northern Notebook

By Mark Douglas, Northern Football Correspondent



Magpies use their contacts in Brazil to entice Santos

Newcastle are continuing to build their network in Brazil, with the club holding an interest in 18-year-old Vasco da Gama wonderkid Andrey Santos.

Santos has attracted interest from Barcelona and Paris Saint-Germain but Newcastle – whose chief scout Steve Nickson is “firmly embedded” in the South American market – are hoping to use their new status and contacts in Brazil to work on a deal.

The teenager is a box-to-box midfielder who is viewed as one of Brazil's hottest prospects, already commanding an asking price of nearly £30m. But local reports have suggested Newcastle are willing to meet that fee.

The Magpies have good links in the country through influential agent Giuliano Bertolucci, who is the intermediary of Bruno Guimaraes and is a powerful figure among some of Brazil's most established stars. It's a market they are keen to explore, with new Brexit rules making it easier, theoretically, to bring in players from South America than it was before the UK left the European Union.



Hot property Andrey Santos (right) is in Newcastle's sights GETTY

Campaigners say there's 'everything to play for' with fan-led review

There is still “everything to play for” when it comes to football's fan-led review, with campaigners believing there remains a clear appetite for reform of the national sport in the heart of government.

There were fears that the new Prime Minister, Liz Truss, might veto the review, which proposes radical changes in football governance and a new independent regulator, as she talks up cutting red tape and legislation around business.

Truss has backed the review in the past but she has appointed Matthew Sinclair as one of her most influential advisers. He is a former chief executive of the right-leaning TaxPayers' Alliance and that organisation has carried articles in the past questioning the need for a fan-led review.

But sources have played down fears the fan-led review will be scrapped or significantly watered down, stating there's “still everything to play for” with the new

Government. Indeed those who have advocated and contributed to the fan-led review – published last year – believe there is now an even more compelling case for the changes included in Tracey Crouch's report, given what has happened over the past 12 months in the sport.

The Premier League has opposed certain parts of the fan-led review and is against an independent regulator, arguing that clubs can regulate themselves. But critics say they have failed to rein in the big six clubs, even in the wake of the European

Super League fiasco, and there was much horse trading around the well-publicised owners' charter to which all 20 clubs were required to sign up.

In the end it will probably come down to politics, and the ideas in the fan-led review and the establishment of an independent regulator are popular with fans. Labour have also pledged to back the reforms in full, which will put further pressure on Truss.

10

Months since Tracey Crouch announced her recommendations

Report says 'stables' of clubs will escalate

The multiclub model will continue to thrive in the Premier League, according to a new report which cites a growing appetite for “stables” of football clubs.

Northern Notebook revealed last year that Newcastle United and Southampton were leading a group of English top-flight sides looking to establish networks of clubs.

It understands there's a firm belief in the takeover industry that Newcastle's ownership group will eventually look to establish a network of clubs similar to Manchester City's City Group, with independent intermediaries making enquiries about what is available in Europe and beyond on their behalf.

Southampton's owner – the Sport Republic group – is understood to be one of two investor groups in talks to buy French second-tier side Valenciennes.

The report, by law firm Norton Rose Fulbright, says the multiclub model trend “will continue to thrive” and that there are now 181 clubs across the world where the owner has a significant stake in another club.

WOMEN'S SUPER LEAGUE

Our game can be the second biggest sport in nation, says WSL chief

Glenn Moore



The Women's Super League is due to return this weekend, riding high on the golden wave of England's triumphant Euros. The aim is for women's football to be the nation's second biggest sport after the men's game, and the WSL equal to the men's Championship within a decade.

That, says Dawn Airey, the media executive who chairs the WSL and the second-tier Women's Championship, is the attainable ambition.

“We have been chatting to the broadcast markets. They say, ‘this is just a moment in sporting history, isn't it?’ Well, actually, it isn't,” said Airey. “Three hundred million people watched the Euros, 27 million Brits watched some aspect of the Euros, 19 million watched the WSL last season.”

“That is not a moment in time, that is a movement. There is a revolution going on and the FA, WSL and Women's Championship are a key part of that revolution.”

“All the research says women's sport in the UK in terms of advertising and sponsorship is going to be worth a billion pounds within 10 years, and women's football will be right up there.”

“I don't see why women's football can't be the second sport behind men's football – in terms of revenue and engagement – in my lifetime.”

Kelly Simmons, FA director for the women's professional game, concurred. “Companies looking at women's football have said to me they picture within 10 years the WSL being as big as the men's Championship.”

Should they be right, the existential question facing the women's game is how do they maintain this rapid growth without losing the qualities that are enticing fans to the sport?

That issue was exercising Airey, Simmons, and Bibi Steinhaus-Webb (who oversees the growing professionalisation of referees in the women's game), as they gathered at Wembley this week to discuss the coming campaign.

Simmons is excited by growing attendances – Arsenal-Spurs on 24 September is set to break 40,000, while many clubs have significantly increased season-ticket sales. But growth brings new problems, such as a desire for “away ends”.

Simmons said: “We never

segregated in the women's game because it was all about everybody coming together,” said Simmons. “Now fans are starting to say they like ‘an end’ but we don't want any of the toxicity that could come with rivalry. How do you create the ‘away end’ atmosphere but not lose the heart, essence and values of women's football?”

“Everyone has said to me about the Euros ‘the atmosphere in the stadiums was really special’. We don't want to lose that. We want it to stay as an inclusive environment.”

It is not just off the pitch. Many fans drawn in by the Euros were attracted by the lack of cheating on it. However, as the stakes rise they are increasing and Steinhaus-Webb said: “We have a certain

timeframe to retain the culture of women's football.” That includes reining in the touchline antics of managers, who are beginning to be more demonstrative, as well as keeping an eye on player behaviour.

The other part of the culture under threat is the existence, in the top tiers, of independent clubs such as Durham. Even those not backed by Premier League men's outfits find it hard, with Reading the outlier in WSL.

The solution, said Simmons, is driving up centralised revenue shared out to all clubs. That is happening, with Barclays extending their sponsorship to the Championship this season and Sky showing highlights.

More broadly a long-term strategy review, in conjunction with the clubs, is to be conducted. The FA would like “more jeopardy” with increased promotion and relegation in the pyramid's upper echelons, plus an enlarged top flight and more full-time teams in the second tier. But the financial landscape has to be right.



40,000 are expected at the Emirates when Arsenal take on Tottenham

Daniel Storey

CHIEF FOOTBALL WRITER



Potter is smashing glass ceiling but it's a gamble for club and manager

It is hard to imagine two more different clubs separated by only two league places than Brighton and Chelsea. Brighton have won no major honours; Chelsea have won every trophy available to them at least once since 2015. This summer, Brighton sold two of their best players for a significant profit; Chelsea allowed a £100m signing to go back to his previous club on loan. Chelsea signed players from Brighton, Manchester City and Aston Villa; Brighton recruited from Villarreal, Libertad, Nordsjaelland and signed Chelsea's ninth-choice central midfielder.

Over the last half decade, the Premier League has installed an imaginary glass ceiling on its managers that Graham Potter is about to smash through. The big six, increasingly existing on an island of wealth, have typically appointed from a small subset of managers; either they have big-club experience or have over-achieved abroad. Promotion from within is rare and the recent exceptions only cemented the strategy: Frank Lampard at Chelsea (a DNA appointment in any case), Nuno at Tottenham, David Moyes at Manchester United – only two lasted a full season. Mauricio Pochettino at Spurs was the only unqualified success.

There is a good reason for that pattern. Managing at an elite club, with elite expectations, really is different from managing lower down the division: dealing with midweek European football, expected to sign ready-made

players more than potential, the knowledge that every defeat can spark a crisis, the internal politics. In those circumstances, you play a risk-averse strategy and pick from the “been there, done it” brigade.

But even amongst that Premier League cabal, Chelsea feel different. Manchester City built the club's off-field structure for Pep Guardiola. Liverpool allowed Jürgen Klopp a rebuilding year. Arsenal showed faith – and have demonstrated patience – in Mikel Arteta. Tottenham did roughly the same with Pochettino before going for experience in Jose Mourinho and Antonio Conte.

Even Manchester United supporters figure that this will take time.

But Chelsea? Under Roman Abramovich, they became the world experts in managerial short-termism. It fuelled their ruthlessness with managers. They figured, because it had worked before, that loyalty to a manager was an unhelpful superfluity. And now they have hired the most emphatic “project” manager in the country. If nothing else, this statistic is incredible: Chelsea spent £15m more on a striker that they have since sent away than Potter has spent on players in his career.

It is not the only reason this appointment is highly unusual. Since Alan Pardew left Newcastle for Crystal Palace in December 2014, Premier League clubs have appointed 80 managers. None was leaving one Premier League club for another in mid-season. Clubs – big and small – prefer to give their managers a full summer

and pre-season. When emergency circumstances dictate that a change is necessary, they usually flick through the contacts book for a firefighter rather than architect.

Maybe none of this matters. Perhaps the principles of good coaching are universal. It's an attractive theory: if Potter has proven that he can quickly turn Moises Caicedo and Enock Mwepu into excellent Premier League players, just imagine what he will do with Mason Mount and Raheem Sterling. It would be inherently reassuring. It would make Potter the leader of a new movement, providing hope that a man can go from the fourth tier of Swedish football to the eighth-biggest club in the world (by revenue) in a decade. Potter would be a dreamweaver for an entire community.

But the environment must make a difference. At Brighton, Potter was allowed to finish 15th and 16th in his first two full seasons. He was permitted to ride through storms of poor form because the underlying data suggested the sun would shine eventually. The club created a system of scouting and recruitment that maximised his strengths as a coach. He was, very simply, allowed to get on with his job. He is a fine coach, but a fine coach in the perfect environment. Can we be confident the same will happen at Chelsea?

That makes a case for Potter rejecting Chelsea's advances, sidestepping the maelstrom of the elite club manager looking over his shoulder 23 hours a day. But it is has never been that simple. Every successful manager is fuelled by a desire to compete at the top of their industry, and a career is defined by making moves at the right time. If you had no interest in testing yourself outside your comfort zone, you wouldn't be here in the first place.

This is not the ideal job for Graham Potter. Potter is not the ideal fit for Chelsea. On both points, you must be wildly optimistic or foolish to suggest anything else. But sometimes opportunity trumps unfamiliarity and sometimes you have to risk getting your feet wet in the gutter for the view of the stars. This might just be the most fascinating managerial encounter since Arsenal vice-chairman David Dein's wife Barbara invited Arsène Wenger to play charades with them in January 1989.



Graham Potter will take his assistant Billy Reid (left) and the rest of his Brighton staff with him to Chelsea GETTY

Path to the Bridge began with finding a way into hearts and minds of his players

Michael Hincks



Graham Potter, Chelsea manager? It would not have seemed possible a few years ago, but the in-vogue Brighton boss has been confirmed as the man to replace Thomas Tuchel at Stamford Bridge.

Chelsea have tied Potter down to a five-year deal, having sacked Tuchel just seven matches into the new season.

With new Chelsea owner Todd Boehly carrying on Roman Abramovich's hire-and-fire approach to head coaches, the jury was out on whether Potter should take the role.

But Potter was clearly keen on the move, and few would deny that the man who started his managerial journey in Sweden

does not deserve this shot at coaching a big-six side.

Chelsea, too, may see the value in appointing a manager whose style is similar to Tuchel's.

What is the Potter way?

Potter has favoured a 3-4-2-1 formation since the end of last season, since when Brighton have lost the influential Marc Cucurella (ironically to Chelsea) and Yves Bissouma, but also beaten Manchester United twice.

This formation relies on two defensive midfielders supporting the back three but also working with the other two midfielders in front of them, making for a tightly-knit quartet that are often encouraged to form a box and constantly be aware of one another's positioning.

That system allows for Potter's key duo, his wing-backs, to stay forward and kick-start Brighton's counter-attacks, as opposed to forming a flat back five when defending.



Graham Potter pictured as Ostersunds manager in 2016 GETTY



Five-year deal suggests club's revolving door is being replaced

By Michael Hincks

The role of head coach at Chelsea has been in every sense a hot seat the past two decades, but the club's vision for Graham Potter is outlined by the length of the contract he signed at their Cobham training ground yesterday.

Thomas Tuchel, who was Roman Abramovich's final appointment, joined on an initial 18-month deal back in January 2021, but Potter – the first major hire of the Todd Boehly-led era – has signed a five-year contract.

Fans at Stamford Bridge may take that with a pinch of salt, given the club's revolving door continued to turn this week, but Boehly has previous when it comes to sticking by managers.

The American co-owns Major League Baseball side Los Angeles Dodgers, who have been managed by Dave Roberts since 2016.

Potter can only hope for a reign of such length, but senior figures at Chelsea view the 47-year-old as both a tactician and communicator capable of overseeing a long-term project.

Having impressed overseas at Ostersunds in Sweden before roles at Swansea and Brighton, Potter breaks the mould. He does not have Champions League experience,

nor is he an ex-Chelsea player, but the club wanted to look away from the typical carousel of big-name managers.

Potter is seen as a risk-taker, and what he lacks in European experience, he makes up for with his Premier League record. Brighton have beaten Arsenal, Tottenham and Manchester United (twice) in 2022 alone, and his studious approach which goes beyond tactics – he has delved deep into the area of emotional intelligence – ultimately turned Chelsea's heads.

"We are thrilled to bring Graham to Chelsea," chairman Boehly said. "He is a proven coach and an innovator in the Premier League who fits our vision for the club."

"Not only is he extremely talented on the pitch, he has skills and capabilities that extend

beyond the pitch which will make Chelsea a more successful club. He has had a major impact at his previous clubs and we look forward to his positive impact at Chelsea."

"We look forward to supporting him, his coaching team and the squad in realising their full potential in the coming months and years."

Potter arrived a week after the closure of the summer transfer window, in which Chelsea spent a reported £278m, but the likes of Pierre-Emerick Aubameyang and Wesley Fofana are regarded as club signings, while the new head coach will have

future opportunities to stamp his imprint on the squad.

He is also expected to have a say in the appointment of a sporting director, a role unfilled since the new owners came in and Marina Granovskaia left the club.

The club hope to have a new director in place before the World Cup starts in Qatar November.

With the transfer window closed and the Potter appointment signed and sealed, that appears to have reached near the top of the club's to-do list when it comes to off-pitch matters.

Boehly co-owns the Los Angeles Dodgers, who have been managed by Dave Roberts since 2016

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Graham Potter's record at Brighton was won 43, drew 43 and lost 48

There are times when the wing-backs essentially operate in the forward line, and this was seen in the opening weekend win at Manchester United, with Pascal Gross (at left wing-back) starting the counter that led to him scoring the second goal of their 2-1 win after Solly March's (right wing-back) attempt was saved.

All this does not mean Potter will stick with 3-4-2-1. He has shown a fluidity regarding formation over the years and has sometimes operated with a back four. The philosophy, however, remains the same: defend as a unit, focus on positioning, play out from the back, and counter-attack quickly.

Graham Potter and emotional intelligence

Potter is not all about numbers and formations, though. He places a great importance on how "emotional intelligence" can get the best out of a squad as well.

"When I started to look further into the course around emotional intelligence and leadership, it seemed to be quite a powerful aspect to take into coaching," Potter explained to *The Coaches' Voice*.

"Self-awareness, empathy, responsibility, motivation, building relationships are all things you need when you're coaching."

"As much as you need to know about football, you need to know about people as well. That can be the difference. How you can

Potter's XI



How Chelsea are likely to line up under the new manager's system

communicate as a team, how you can understand each other, big things in football. It's not just about the Xs and Os, the numbers, formations, drills, practices. It's about how you can get that team to function together, motivate individuals with that group to understand their role and others, and come together for a common cause."

This was echoed by one of his former players, Brwa Nouri, who was named captain under Potter at Swedish side Ostersund.

"He's not only a football coach. He's probably one of the best men I've ever met in my life," Nouri told ESPN. "[Potter] is so emotionally intelligent in his way of interacting [with] people, making you welcome and developing you."

"He is skilful in many areas. You have to experience him yourself, but for me, he's incredible. And I

feel so grateful. After what I've been through, how far down I'd been, I never thought I'd be able to achieve anything like this."

Potter leaves 'no stone unturned'

And it is not just Potter's past players who are wedded to his ways. Both 31-year-old Danny Welbeck and 34-year-old Adam Lallana have been regular starters at Brighton this season, and have credited their former boss for his diligent approach.

"Every manager has their own way of doing things and he wants success and he wants to win," Welbeck told BBC Sport.

"If you look at the way the team is playing and how we are going into matches, there is no stone left unturned on what he wants us to do out there on the pitch."

Lallana added: "Graham, from my experience with him, is a really deep thinker. Him and his staff do 12-hour days, which you need to do if you want to be the best."

"There are so many different dynamics to the team you need to look at. You've got a squad of 25 players, each at different stages in their career and life with different

problems, but Graham and his team really do cover all bases."

Who could benefit at Chelsea?

One of the more immediate points made after Tuchel's sacking was the fact Chelsea got rid of him just days after Pierre-Emerick Aubameyang (left) was signed to reunite with a coach he played under at Borussia Dortmund.

So is Aubameyang doomed under Potter? Not necessarily. Potter brought the best out of Welbeck at Brighton and does not always rely on his No 9 to rush back and defend, meaning Aubameyang could yet be suited to the role that Potter may present to him.

The more pertinent question would be whether Potter makes wing-backs out of wingers or full-backs.

Reece James feels like an obvious choice for right-sided wing-back – it is a role he has played under Tuchel – while on the left it could be Cucurella, Ben Chilwell, or even a more attack-minded player.

Potter in fact ended the 2021-22 season by playing

Cucurella as the left-sided centre-back at Brighton, with Leandro Trossard or March in front of him, and so the Spaniard could line up in that defensive position with Chilwell ahead of him at Chelsea.

That would leave Thiago Silva, Wesley Fofana, Kalidou Koulibaly and Cesar Azpilicueta vying for two roles, although their strength in depth makes rotation likely.

With N'Golo Kanté, Mateo Kovacic and Jorginho – a trio who rarely seem all to be fit at the same time – battling it out for the double-pivot roles, the greatest intrigue beyond the two wing-backs is what Potter's potential arrival would mean for Raheem Sterling.

Mason Mount would appear to be a perfect fit for Potter's system, and he could soon find himself operating closely with Sterling, who could tuck in as a No 10, as opposed to playing as a false nine or out wide.

Meanwhile, Conor Gallagher and Ruben Loftus-Cheek are versatile midfield options, while the jury is out on Kai Havertz, Hakim Ziyech and Christian Pulisic. Arguably Havertz would simply contend with Aubameyang and Armando Broja for the forward role, but the German could slot into attacking midfield as well – so long as he is prepared to track back.

The same could be said for Ziyech and Pulisic, although perhaps Potter would view them as wing-backs in the making? Get ready to run, lads.



09.09.22

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FOOTBALL

Potter leaves Brighton to take reins at Chelsea on five-year deal



P82

FOOTBALL

Is the seven-year curse of Klopp repeating itself at Liverpool?

Third Test on hold as sports bodies consult on next move

By Chris Stocks, Sam Cunningham, Hugh Godwin and James Gray

Today's second day of the third and final Test between England and South Africa at the Oval has been postponed, along with horse racing meetings and golf, following the Queen's death.

The ECB is expected to announce further news regarding the status of the Test today, following a board meeting and discussions with other sporting bodies in the UK.

With the series poised at 1-1, the opening day of the deciding Test was washed out but it is unclear whether the remainder of the match will be re-scheduled or abandoned altogether.

It understands one scenario being floated internally at the ECB is starting the Test as a four-day contest on Saturday, with the final day on Tuesday – 24 hours after the scheduled conclusion of the series.

South Africa are scheduled to fly out of the UK on Tuesday but that could be postponed if the Test is re-scheduled given that they are not due to fly to India for their upcoming T20 series until 24 September.

The Premier League is set to announce plans for this weekend's fixtures this morning.

Representatives from the Department for Digital, Culture, Media & Sport are due to speak on a call with leaders from across sport first thing today and offer guidance over how to proceed while the country mourns the Queen's passing at Balmoral yesterday afternoon.

The EFL made the call to postpone its two fixtures scheduled for tonight, before making a decision on the rest of the weekend's schedule following guidance from the Government.

An EFL spokesperson said: "As a mark of respect, following the passing of Her Majesty, the Queen Elizabeth II, the EFL has confirmed that its fixtures scheduled for [Friday] evening have been postponed."

"A determination regarding the remainder of this weekend's scheduled fixtures will be made following a review of the official mourning guidance, in addition to further consultation with DCMS and other sports on Friday morning."

In rugby union, Northampton announced the postponement of their Premiership Rugby Cup clash against Saracens scheduled for last night.

The Rugby Football Union said: "On behalf of the rugby union community in England, all at the Rugby Football Union are very saddened to hear of the death of Her Majesty, Queen Elizabeth II and offer our condolences to the whole Royal Family at this time."

The St George's Flag has also been lowered to half-mast at Twickenham Stadium.

At the time of writing, it was unclear whether the start of the new Premiership season, due to kick off tonight, would go ahead.

Play was suspended for the day at the PGA Championship and there will be no golf played today.

Sunday's Italian Grand Prix will go ahead as scheduled, with a minute's silence planned before practice today and another expected before the race.

Horse racing at Southwell and Chelmsford last night was abandoned. The British Horseracing Authority also announced that meetings scheduled for today – including the third day of the St Leger meeting at Doncaster – have been cancelled.

The US Tennis Association told that a moment's silence and a photo tribute were planned ahead of the first US Open semi-final at midnight BST last night.



The scoreboard at Wentworth breaks the news of suspension of play PA

FOOTBALL EUROPA LEAGUE



Sociedad on spot as Ronaldo fails audition to win back his place

MANCHESTER UNITED

0

REAL SOCIEDAD
Mendez pen 59

1

Pete
Hall

AT OLD TRAFFORD



It seems strange to suggest that the European Cup's all-time top goalscorer would have to audition to win his place back in any side, but that is the task Cristiano Ronaldo faced at Old Trafford last night.

On a surreal occasion given the news of the Queen's passing less than 90 minutes before kick off, the encounter was always going to be a subdued one, but with a job to do, Erik ten Hag shuffled his pack and gave starts to three players who needed them – Casemiro, Harry Maguire and Ronaldo. To rather limited success.

Ronaldo especially, having been forced to stay at United somewhat against his will, needed to make his point. How could this young upstart of a manager come in and drop him, one of the greatest players in history, and think he can be successful?

Ninety minutes later, and Ten Hag is the one who had made his point after a Ronaldo-fronted United slumped to defeat in their Europa League opener against Real Sociedad. Perhaps his version of United, one which had come into the clash on the back of four successive wins, is best placed without their veteran superstar slowing up the play after all.

It was an odd experience to be inside the stadium on such a solemn night. There was no music, no advertising flashing on the electric boards that encircle the pitch, no teams were read out, nothing. Just one very matter of fact announcement that the sides were coming out on to the pitch, before reverting to silence.

The crowd did their best to rouse their team after the official minute's silence had been observed, but the



Manchester United players observe a minute's silence for the Queen PA

EUROPA CONFERENCE LEAGUE

Sleeping Hammers wake up to assert superiority over Romanians

WEST HAM UNITED
Bowen pen 69, Emerson 74,
Antonio 90

3

FCSB
Cordea 34

1

By Jon West

AT THE LONDON STADIUM

In a stirring final half hour West Ham came from behind to win their opening Europa Conference League group game in style.

Left-back Emerson netted his first goal for his new club after substitute Jarrod Bowen's penalty had cancelled out a first-half opener from the Romanian visitors, and another replacement, Michail Antonio, made sure with a fine solo third.

David Moyes's side, who also face Anderlecht and Silkeborg in Group B, were limp for more than an hour and fortunate with the penalty award but proved too powerful in the end.

Andrea Compagno, FCSB's Italian journeyman striker, forced goalkeeper Alphonse Areola in to an early save before heading narrowly over from a corner but West Ham sharpened up to counter with an attack that ended in Declan Rice firing wide from distance after Gianluca Scamacca's shot was blocked.

Maxwell Cornet turned smartly in the box but he too saw his shot turned away by a defender, although FCSB had to hack away off their own line from the corner to prevent an own goal.

The visitors, one of two clubs claiming to be 1986 European Cup



Emerson Palmieri celebrates his goal at the London Stadium

winner Steaua Bucharest, almost took the lead when Darius Olaru picked out Andrei Cordea at the back post but Areola pulled off another quality stop.

The reprieve was short lived however as Cordea slotted FCSB ahead in the 34th minute after Olaru had found him in a similar position. No home defenders were present to challenge and Areola was unable to scramble across in time.

The half ended with Scamacca sending two headers wide and shanking a shot across goal.

Moyes made a triple change, with Bowen, Antonio, and Lucas Paqueta replacing Scamacca, Benrahma and Manuel Lanzini.

The pattern of the game remained the same however, with FCSB,

West Ham United (4-3-3) Areola; Coufal, Kehrer, Ogborn (Dawson, 90), Emerson; Downes, Rice, Lanzini (Paqueta, h-t); Cornet (Formals, 68), Scamacca (Antonio, h-t), Benrahma (Bowen, h-t). **FCSB (4-3-3)** Tarnovanu; Cretu, Tchakonte (Harut, 87), Tamm, Radunovic; Olaru (Rusu, 90), Edjoma, Oaida (Radaslavescu, 90); Cordea, Compagno (Miculescu, 70), Coman (Popescu, 71). **Booked:** West Ham Cornet, Ogborn, Emerson; FCSB Tchakonte, Tarnovanu, Oaida. **Man of the match** Emerson. **Match rating** 7/10. **Possession:** West Ham 61% FCSB 39%. **Attempts on target:** West Ham 6 FCSB 4. **Referee** B Bastien (Fra). **Att** 17,768.

fourth from bottom in Liga 1, looking the more likely to score.

The game passed the hour mark with FCSB goalkeeper Stefan Tarnovanu not having made a save.

West Ham then won a penalty. Tarnovanu and Cornet challenged for Paqueta's ball into the box and the referee ruled the goalkeeper had been reckless before both men hit the turf in agony.

Cornet had to be replaced by Pablo Fornals before Bowen smashed the spot-kick high into the net in the 69th minute.

Now it was a question of whether FCSB could hold out and the answer was not long in coming. A miskick went straight to Antonio, who would have been offside otherwise, and a tussle with a defender saw Emerson thump home the loose ball.

The hosts continued to attack and Tarnovanu had to make another save, this time to deny Fornals.

Antonio had the last word with a well-taken effort that was all his own work. The striker's turn left his nearest challenger flatfooted and trailing and, although Tarnovanu got a touch, the shot had too much power to be stopped.

match took a while to get going, understandably given the low-key introduction.

The changes Ten Hag made from the team that beat Arsenal with a high energy, pressing display on Sunday won't have helped, either. Especially when the man replacing two-goal hero Marcus Rashford didn't seem to like being the understudy fill in on a Europa League night.

While a rejuvenated Rashford would be found making runs down the channel, Ronaldo time and again seemed unwilling to get on the end of a Christian Eriksen pick-out, or drop deep to get involved in the build-up. He knew the cameras would be watching his every move, and he played up to it, making more exaggerated gestures than penetrative moves in and around the box.

Two changes for United at the interval gave the game the lift it needed, as did an improved Sociedad.

Clear chances, however, remained few and far between. Referee Marco Di Bello did his best to give the encounter a memorable moment, awarding a penalty for handball against another United substitute, Lisandro Martinez. The shot came from a man no stranger to inflicting pain on the red half of Manchester – David Silva.

United can feel hard done by, given Martinez's close proximity to Silva, and the fact it came up off his leg and on to his arm. It would probably not have been given in the Premier

Manchester United (4-2-3-1) De Gea; Dalot (Martinez h-t), Maguire, Lindelof, Malacia (McNeill, 83); Casemiro, Eriksen (Fernandes, h-t), Antony (Sancho, 71), Fred, Elanga (Ferreira, 71); Ronaldo. **Real Sociedad (4-1-2-1-2)** Gargallo; Gorosabel, Elustondo, Pacheco, Munoz; Zubimendi; Mendez (Turrientes, 84), Merino; Silva (Cho, 65); Kubo (Barrenetxea, 78), Sadiq (Sorloth, h-t). **Booked:** Man United Martinez, Fred, Sociedad Silva, Munoz, Turrientes. **Man of the match** Merino. **Match rating** 6/10. **Possession:** Man United 51% Sociedad 49%. **Attempts on target:** Man United 3 Sociedad 3. **Referee** M Di Bello (Ita).

League, but after the last week in the world of video-assisted football officiating, who knows?

Brais Mendez dispatched the penalty with ease, and that always felt like it was going to be that, even though there was half an hour still to go.

It may well have been down to the gravity of the day, but United just could not muster anything in response. As a result, the man supposed to be spearheading the attack grew more and more frustrated, sprawling to the ground in the search of a penalty that was never going to come.

As he lined up a free-kick in the latter stages of the contest, it appeared his moment, once again when not at his best, had come to snatch the headlines, but his tame effort went straight into the wall, to sum up his and United's evening.

The likelihood of him starting United's next match, whenever that may be, look slim. A final year in Manchester could turn out to be a miserable one for him, too.

Muted celebrations for young Gunners' victory

FC ZURICH
Kryeziu pen 44

1

ARSENAL
Marquinhos 16, Nketiah 62

2

Arsenal's winning start to their Europa League campaign was overshadowed by the death of the Queen and the players held a minute's silence before the start of the second half in Switzerland.

The announcement came from Buckingham Palace during the interval in St Gallen, where Arsenal secured a 2-1 victory in their opening Group A encounter.

Zurich are ninth in a 10-team Swiss Super League and this game was moved from their home ground following a clash with Diamond League athletics.

Mikel Arteta made seven changes and Marquinhos (right) impressed on his senior debut with a goal and an assist.

The 19-year-old opened the scoring with a well-taken finish after good work from Fabio Vieira, making his full debut, and Eddie Nketiah.

Vieira could not double the lead



after lifting an effort over the crossbar following a fine run, then Nketiah conceded a penalty just before the break when he fouled Fidan Aliti inside the box. Mirind Kryeziu made no mistake from the spot, sending debutant goalkeeper Matt Turner the wrong way to level.

The Arsenal players re-emerged wearing black armbands and the two sides congregated around the centre-circle for a minute's silence.

When the game restarted, Nketiah fired just over the bar but eventually he put Arsenal back in front, his downward header from a Marquinhos cross greeted with muted celebrations just after the hour.

FC Zurich (4-4-1-1) Brecher; Boranjasevic, Kamberi, Kryeziu, Aliti; Okita (Avdijaj, 80), Dzemaili (Condé, 67), Selnaes, Guerrero (Rohner, 67); Krasniqi (Marchesano, 67), Tosin (Santini, 80). **Arsenal (4-3-3)** Turner; Tomiyasu, Holding, Gabriel, Tierney (Zinchenko, 69); Fabio Vieira (Odegaard, 69), Sambi Lokonga, Xhaka; Marquinhos (Saka, 69), Nketiah (Jesus, 78), Martinelli. **Booked:** FC Zurich Kryeziu. **Man of the match** Marquinhos. **Match rating** 6/10. **Possession:** FC Zurich 32% Arsenal 68%. **Attempts on target:** FC Zurich 3 Arsenal 8. **Referee** M Al-Hakim (Swe).

We went to pot, says Hearts boss Neilson

HEART OF MIDLOTHIAN

0

ISTANBUL BASAKSEHIR
Kaldırım 26, Ndayishimiye 67,
Okaka 75, Özcan 82

4

Robbie Neilson lamented the way his Hearts side "went to pot" in the second half of their home hammering by Istanbul Basaksehir.

The Tynecastle side – playing their first European group-stage match since 2004 – trailed 1-0 at the break before the Turks killed the game with three goals in the final quarter.

"I thought in the first half we played really well, I was pleased," said Neilson. "I thought we were in the game and we lost a really disappointing goal."

"Even at the start of the second half we were in it. And then we lost the second goal and we went to pot, and they started to show their quality because we became so open. We started chasing the game."

20

Years since
Cristiano Ronaldo
played a European
club game outside
Champions League

